

Keeping Score On Our Modern Prophets



KURT SAXON

Psychic researcher and Bible expert levels on the people who give the occult world a bad name.

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KURT SAXON

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Affectionately Dedicated to
Bonnie Benzonelli Gool

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Cover photo by Peter Palmquist

1

THE PROPHETS AMONG US

IT would be a comfort to know the future if good times are ahead. It would certainly be helpful to know the future if the future is to be rotten.

Political leaders and businessmen are keenly interested in social changes to come. Even a good guess could mean the difference between greatness and obscurity.

Lonely women with little to do yearn desperately to know if some member of cafe society will wed or bear young. They seem personally involved in the emotional and biological futures of such persons as Ethel Kennedy and Jackie Onassis.

And so from all walks of life comes the cry, "Tell us, then, of the economy. Will there be war? Is Jackie pregnant? Will a plague take us all? Will Princess Anne wed a commoner? Famine? Plane crashes?"

The answer to these questions and more lies in the future. And those who can see ahead will be great in the land.

So the prophets arise among us. One says, "Lo, I gaze into my orb of crystal and behold the orb of Jackie's belly." While this one heralds a wastrel born only to consume and pollute, another announces the coming of a great spiritual leader in the person of Elvis Presley. Not to be outdone, yet another

tells us that Ted Kennedy will win the 1972 presidential election.

Aside from a lot of wrong guesses, many of these prophets are actually psychic. They have extra sensory perception and some are telepathic. Their sensitivity does give them insights and flashes through which they can often tell what lies ahead.

They seem to be quite good with certain individuals and will occasionally see true about future events which affect the country. Their biggest drawback is that they seem just as confident when prophesying lies as when they hit on the truth.

For instance, proven psychic Shirley Harrison (in 1969) went on record with the joyous news that the marriage of Jackie and Ari will survive. She then prophesied that the Russians would be first to land a man on the moon.

Forgetting the errors and remembering only the hits, people tend to believe that these prophets are divinely favored. They are awed by any display of psychic power, even flashes of intuition.

People should realize that extra sensory perception, which includes intuition, telepathy, precognition, etc., is common to everyone at one time or another. It varies in clarity and in how often it occurs with individuals. One who realizes he has such abilities can develop them into talents. This is what makes the difference between your average "psychic" and the person who only claims to be good at getting hunches.

Some people seem to have no psychic ability and some have no ear for music while others are color blind. Rather than say that psychic ability is a gift, it would be more accurate to say that its lack is a defect. Also, rather than to hold it in awe, one should give it only the respect due any ability. For psychic abilities are not even an indication of simple goodness, much less of divine inspiration.

A continuing mixture of hits and misses from the same person is proof that the prophecies do not come from any

higher power. After all, if a person could tap the Main Source, he would be stupid to settle for anything less.

When considering the merits of our modern prophets we should first determine the source of their prophecies. The first claim made by and for most prophets is that their messages come from the Creator. We are expected to believe that the Creator of the Universe wants us to know certain coming events and is using as a messenger one of our own nation and tongue.

If the Creator actually wanted such messages delivered to us through a prophet, then that prophet would speak true 100% of the time. There would be no margin for error in the message and there would be no question of its source any more than one would question the source of a Western Union telegram.

In the greater order of things, as well as in the daily business of living, the inability to pin down sources would lead to chaos. Consider this purely hypothetical example with its absurd conclusion:

A Western Union messenger knocks on your door and hands you three telegrams, supposedly from an uncle. One tells you that you must make an immediate move to another state to manage family affairs. Another tells you that your favorite political candidate (of whom your uncle has inside information) is going to win the upcoming election. The last tells you that a socialite you have heard of, but never expect to meet, is pregnant.

Well, you immediately call home about the family business and it is confirmed that you are needed. That evening your candidate loses by a landslide so great that your uncle's prediction is made ridiculous.

While talking over the last telegram with a gossip-nut friend, you learn about the supposedly pregnant socialite. Her husband has been sterile for years and she practices birth

control because she doesn't dare get pregnant.

The first thing you do after this is to run to Western Union with the three telegrams. You explain that the one about family business is obviously from your uncle. The second, however, could not be from him because he is a pollster and would never be that far off. The third must be a joke as your uncle would not waste a telegram on such frivolous garbage as a socialite's pregnancy.

Western Union then tells you that their messenger has been dismissed. He had been so thrilled with handling an important message from your uncle that it had gone to his head. He went so far as to contrive messages of his own and run them through the machines. He justified this by saying that he got impressions and visions and his left ankle itched.

From there he went on to smaller message services, working cheap since he made up all the messages himself. At last report he is in the state hospital. He now scribbles messages from your uncle on tongue depressors and throws them through the bars of a window on the third floor.

Aside from those who claim divine inspiration, there are those who say they have extra sensory perception. They are the ones I like because they have usually developed an ability and made it a talent and use it as such.

When they are wrong they admit it; and why not? After all, they have not staked their reputations on anything in Heaven or Hell. There is no blasphemy involved in saying they goofed; and they gain more respect when they are right.

In the next category are those who get their messages from the lower powers. These include spiritualists, astrologers, card readers, operators of ouija boards (pronounced weegee), table tapping, automatic writing, etc.

Only the phoniest of these claim messages from the

Creator. Seldom do they claim it is their own psychic ability. Instead, they claim only that the power or influence is from outside themselves.

They claim contact with the souls of the dead as in spiritualism. Others claim influence from the stars, each interpreting the same pattern differently. Still others claim contact with non-human life forms as with the ouija board or through the practice of witchcraft.

All these are often wrong so they would not be classified as among the higher powers. Of course, "God", "the Lord", "Jesus", when applied as labels for entities giving wrong information would not come from the Creator and so would also be relegated to the lower powers.

One who claims divine guidance is Jeane Dixon. She is said to have accurately predicted that China would go communist, the death of Dag Hammarskjold, the suicide (or murder) of Marilyn Monroe and the Kennedy assassinations.

She is called the world's greatest seer, phenomenal, amazing, fantastic and a phoney. Aside from claiming divine inspiration and telepathic abilities she uses a crystal ball and cards.

Ruth Montgomery wrote a book about her titled "A Gift of Prophecy". According to the book, Jeane learned about her "powers" at the age of eight. A Gypsy fortune teller read her palm and told her she had the gift of prophecy.

Now a gift is not an ability one has and develops into a talent. A gift is from someone apart from the person receiving it.

So at the age of eight she was led to believe that the Creator had made her a special person. Reinforcing this blasphemy, the old Gypsy gave the child a crystal ball and a deck of cards.

If little Jeanie had been average she might have drifted to Hollywood and opened up a store front fortune telling parlor



So I told Jeane Dixon, I says, "Jeane....."

and joke shop. Or because of the cards, she might have gone to Las Vegas and become a faro dealer.

But when she got to Hollywood, instead of going into the fortune telling game right off, she married a Chevy dealer name of Jimmy Dixon. Shortly thereafter Jim took her off to Washington, D.C. where they got into real estate and met a lot of politicians.

Politicians also believe they are divinely ordained so she had found a home.

Her early grounding in the occult was really a necessity

here. Let's face it. If you are connected with fortune tellers, car dealers, politicians and real estate agents and can't boast some degree of divinity for yourself, you'll just never make it.

Jeane Dixon built up her reputation gradually by giving psychic readings for friends. I don't doubt that she has developed some of her natural ability as she has several good testimonials.

But accurate readings for friends is not proof of divine inspiration. A psychic relationship with a client is highly personal. Many impressions and actual thought transference can occur. It is when the psychic drops the person-to-person readings and talks about prominent persons and events which concern the rest of us that the fun begins. Then that psychic is obliged to be consistently accurate or get out of the limelight.

Jeane Dixon, however, goes on year after year, making predictions and implying they are from the Creator. It seems no one keeps a record nor analyzes her predictions for real psychic content.

So let us examine some of her predictions and see how they grew from hunches to hindsight. A good one to start with is President Kennedy's assassination.

According to Ruth Montgomery's book, "A Gift of Prophecy", Jeane had gotten an impression that Kennedy had just made a decision to go on a trip to the South. She saw a black cloud descending that told her the trip would be soon and fatal.

Now if she had been as sure of the truth of this vision as she said afterward, she might have gone to the Secret Service. With her reputation she could have gotten to one of the biggies there, given him a quick demonstration of her psychic powers and then told him her story.

Our Secret Service is not deaf to tips on dangers to the President. Nixon's mid-August motorcade through New

Orleans was cancelled on what turned out to be little more than a joke, although Nixon wasn't laughing.

Jeane's warning might at least have gotten them to put on the car's plastic top. It was not bulletproof but was somewhat deflective and would have made sighting in very difficult for an overhead shooter.

If she failed with the Secret Service she could have gone to the Washington Post. Both Jeane and the President were big enough, even then, to rate a front page story on the prediction. And even if it didn't come to pass it would still be terrific copy.

A prominent news story would have inspired every trigger happy nut around that maybe he was the one chosen to pull it off. Knowing this train of thought the Secret Service would have had to be more wary. A plastic canopy for the car would have been basic. Oswald might have stayed home that day.

But how did she really try to alert the President? In the book she goes to Kay Halle, a woman close to the Kennedy family. Now Kay only had a casual acquaintanceship with Jeane. She was hardly the one to confide in for such an important psychic impression.

Anyway, Jeane told Kay about her belief that Kennedy had just made a decision to go someplace in the South that would be fatal to him. From this, Kay was supposed to tell Kennedy not to make that trip.

Jeane continued that for a long time she had been seeing this black cloud over the White House which kept getting bigger and kept moving downward. That meant the time was near and Kennedy would be killed while away from the White House.

This was it! This was the extent of the warning that a logical, worldly woman was supposed to take to a logical, worldly President of the United States. This was supposed to get him to put off a trip important to his hoped for re-election.

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Later Kay said she turned the message over in her mind but, "I simply could not bring myself to deliver such a dreadful and nebulous warning".

The warning was less nebulous by Nov. 20 when Jeane told at least two people that the President was going to be shot. It was even less nebulous the day before the assassination. In the book Jeane implied that Kennedy would have been all right if he could keep himself safe from bullets for the next few days.

Next day, four hours before the shots were fired, Jeane announced that this would be the day of the assassination. So according to page 11 of "A Gift of Prophecy", four hours before the killing, Jeane knew what would happen and the day. Why bother with such a "nebulous" warning as she did a few weeks before?

Kennedy went to Texas despite her nebulous warning. Why, then, when the warning was no longer nebulous, didn't she repeat the clearer warning to someone who could act on it?

This reminds me of one of those dreams of danger where the one who can help is stuck in oozy mud and can hardly move.

Of course, it is quite possible that the Kennedy family was jinxed. This is dealt with extensively in Jess Stearn's book, "Adventures Into the Psychic." Here, even John Kennedy expressed this belief.

He expected death and like his brother, Bobby, he seemed to want to take every chance just to get the dirty business over with.

John Kennedy, like Abraham Lincoln, had many warnings but either ignored them or accepted them as Fate. Lincoln had letters from mediums all over the country warning him of

assassination.

Incidentally, on pages 38 and 39 of Stearn's "Adventures Into the Psychic" there is an amazing list of similarities between the assassins, Lee Harvey Oswald and John Wilkes Booth.

Many theories were put forth that these killings were in accordance with natural cycles. This might well be. And if so, the assassinations were not events to be prevented if possible but a matter of events pre-ordained.

They happened according to certain laws of cycles, overlapping destinies, like pebbles falling in the water and their circles converging on one another. These converging circles may send out signals apparent to psychics.

But to say the Creator is trying to give a warning is absurd. If the Creator wanted to prevent an assassination, that assassination simply would not occur.

Biblical warnings to individuals dealt with persons who were leading a whole people to ruin through the transgression of Jehovah's laws. The picture could have been changed by going back to the old ways. This concept did not apply to either Kennedy or Lincoln.

Some people lend themselves to these pre-ordained or cyclic calamities. If a ship is to go down with great loss of life, sure enough, its captain is the perfect patsy. He is a professional hero who dares Fate and sneers at caution.

In short, he's the last person who would heed a warning. He's a compulsive gambler, born to lose and looking forward to his own doom.

So when the Great Gremlin was engineering his cyclic zingers a few years ago he would naturally have considered the Kennedys. For high class goofing off they would be the jackpot. To the Great Gremlin, the Kennedys must have been as welcome as a bucket of monkeys on April Fool's Day, besides which, those clowns are as predictable as the Jukes and

the Kalikaks.

Getting back to nebulous warnings, we go to Carole Lombard's fatal plane crash.

Miss Lombard, the wife of Clark Gable, was on a war bond selling tour. It so happened that Jeane was also working on the bond drive. She told Miss Lombard that she should not go anywhere by plane for at least six weeks. She cautioned her, instead, to confine her travels to automobile or train.

Well, if you remember, there was strict gas rationing for cars then and the trains were crowded with all those rough soldiers. Carole flipped a coin, took a plane and died.

She would have boarded many planes in the next six weeks. There was nothing in the warning about which plane there would be danger from or even what kind of danger. It could have been air sickness or discomfort from stomach gas caused by the high altitude.

The war bond drive was very important to Carole who was very patriotic as well as being "a real good looking broad." Carole also might have suspected that since Jeane was also helping with the drive, maybe by grounding her Jeane would score more bond points by default.

At any rate, Jeane's influence carried less weight than the flip of a coin. That for your nebulous warnings!

Moving right along we come to Ted Kennedy's plane crash which resulted in a severe back injury.

In "A Gift of Prophecy" Jeane tells Mary Alice Stork, supposedly close to the Kennedys, that she must tell them that Teddy must stay out of private planes for the next two weeks. If he flew anyway, she warned, something very serious would happen to him.

Next morning Mrs. Stork read in the paper that Ted had gotten his back broken in a plane crash. We may never know

if Mary Alice told Ted or any of the Kennedys. But why was it left up to her?

This warning was nebulous. It also covered two weeks instead of the few hours Ted had before the crash. Moreover it was given, again, to someone who may not have passed it on, or if she did pass it on it was not specific enough to be taken seriously.

When the warning was described to Jeane as a premonition she said, "It was not a premonition. God showed it to me."

It follows, I suppose, that "God" also showed her the fates of Carole Lombard and President Kennedy. Which "God?"

The big question here is if the tragedies were known in advance and if "God" wanted them stopped, why was Jeane Dixon given the job?

I compare the cases of John Kennedy's assassination and Ted's plane crash to the Kitty Genovese murder in New York. You may remember that Kitty was being butchered by a disgruntled suitor while dozens of witnesses witnessed from an apartment house nearby.

No one made a move to help Kitty except for one person we might compare to Jeane. This person called a friend clear across town who, in turn, called the police. They arrived in time to cover the body and count the witnesses who didn't want to get involved.

Suppose you were "God" and wanted someone to be warned of a tragedy. Would you give the job to that old buck passer, Jeane, or would you give the job to someone who would go directly to the victim or to the authorities?

Had you been a friend of Kitty's would you want the only conscientious witness to be someone who would call across town to a friend? Wouldn't you, instead, want one who would call the police direct?

Well, I should reckon so!

An interesting sidelight to Jeane's approach to prophecy was given in *The National Enquirer* of Aug. 24, 1969. In a story titled "Jeane Dixon Predicts Ted Kennedy's Future" Jeane explained how a "prophecy" given by her went wrong.

Six weeks before Ted caused the drowning of Mary Jo Kopechne, Jeane said, "I feel the Kennedy mechinations stronger than ever. Sen. Edward Kennedy will get the 1972 Democratic presidential nomination; however there are potent, dangerous vibrations around him which could alter the course of his life."

Now, the last part simply echoed the apprehensions of everyone after Ted's two brothers had been shot. One didn't need to be a prophet to feel danger for the last of Joe Kennedy's sons.

But the cute part is the way Jeane tried to wiggle out of her mistake and even make capital of it. According to the *Enquirer* she explained, "When I predicted that Ted Kennedy would get the 1972 Democratic presidential nomination, I saw it through telepathy — by reading his mind. Those were man-made plans."

But were they? If so, Kennedy had been lying when he repeatedly said he didn't intend to run.

And how about telepathy? It's pretty commonly accepted as a fact. If we accept telepathy it would explain a lot. Wouldn't the minds of prominent people, driven by ambition, be like strong beacons? Wouldn't they send out impressions which could be picked up by a good telepath?

If Jeane Dixon is a telepath her claims to prophecy are nonsense. Merely knowing that Kennedy meant to run did not mean he would *actually* run. If it was telepathy then there was no prophecy involved in her original statement that Kennedy would run for president.

Carrying the idea further, if she uses telepathy, how about her predictions of tragedy for John and Bobby Kennedy?

I can imagine President Kennedy being apprehensive about a trip to Dallas. He might well have strongly projected the thought, "There are a lot of rightwing fanatics in Dallas. It could be dangerous but I'll have to risk it."

Is this what Jeane picked up and called prophecy?

Maybe Bobby also anticipated danger in the Los Angeles crowds and reflected it. Did Jeane also pick up his natural dread telepathically and call it prophecy?

Did Ted Kennedy project apprehension over a plane trip he was to take the next day? Did Jeane pick it up? She said within two weeks, so he would have been more aware of the time of danger than was Jeane.

When Jeane met Carole Lombard did Carole project a fear of flying? Did she dread the next six weeks filled with numerous plane flights? I gather the first plane she got on crashed so why a *six week* danger period unless Carole projected the fear of danger throughout that period herself.

Jeane's next prediction of danger was an assassination attempt on a presidential candidate. *The Enquirer* of June 25, 1972 carried the story "Jean Dixon Predicted Attempted Assassination of George Wallace."

If anyone had reason to fear an assassination attempt it was George Wallace. Would he not have mentally projected the fear, even though he may never have expressed it in words?

The Enquirer story relates how Jeane told a friend, Clyde Watts, that Wallace was in danger. As before, Jeane made no attempt to warn the victim. Nothing in the story indicates that Clyde Watts made any attempt to warn Wallace.

The story tells how she gave the warning a month before the attempt on Wallace's life. She said, "On April 13, I gave a speech in Oklahoma and said there would be an assassination attempt on one of the presidential nominees — a Democrat. I didn't want to say the name in public."

But why didn't she want to say the name in public?

The worst thing that could have happened would be that there would have been an attempt on Wallace's life; which there was anyway. Since she predicted it she would have been home free.

The best thing that could have happened is that security would have been tightened and Bremmer could have been disarmed and captured before he could fire. Then Jeane would have been a heroine indeed.

So I repeat, what did Jeane have to lose by saying Wallace's name in public? Nothing, unless she picked up the projection of fear but didn't know if it was from Wallace, McGovern or Muskie.

I don't believe she said the name, even in private. Clyde Watts is a retired Army Reserve Brigadier General. If Jeane named Wallace to him at all or if he believed her at all reliable, he would have taken action to get Wallace to tighten security.

Another thing to consider is that a lack of security has played a big part in Jeane's predictions about candidates.

It was an almost abnormal lack of security which made President Kennedy ride through Dallas in an open convertible. It was certainly abnormal of Bobby to traipse through the hotel crowds back to the unguarded kitchen where Sirhan waited. And for Wallace to mingle with a parking lot crowd is unthinkable for a man so hated by so many.

Let me run this up the flagpole to see if you salute, or at least twitch. What if Jeane Dixon weren't prophesying at all? What if these three men actually had death wishes going and were broadcasting them continually?

This doesn't mean that they were not still afraid. I think *all* the candidates were afraid. Many psychics predicted assassi-

nation attempts which didn't come off. They could have picked up the fears of Nixon, Agnew, McGovern, etc., along with those of the Kennedys and Wallace.

But only the Kennedy's and Wallace went out of their way to undermine whatever security measures they had working for them. Not only might they have been broadcasting death wishes and fears but their lack of security was obvious to everyone interested. One didn't need to be a prophet to know they were all asking for a bullet.

You might ask why, if this were not prophecy, did Jeane indicate only Wallace as a potential assassin's victim? But she *did* indicate another. In the same *Enquirer* story she said there would be an attempt on the life of yet another candidate before the campaign was over.

There wasn't, but the remaining candidates must have been sending out messages of fear you could cut with a knife. What prophecy?

2

PREDICTIONS ON FILE

THIS section will deal with all the prophecies I had access to which were public record. Some of them are biggies but most are smallies; the ones you forget or which the prophets hope you forget.

Many were so forgettable I had to look them up in the "Facts On File Year Books" in the Public Library. This is a set of reference works covering all the biggies and smallies which make the news year by year.

Some of the predictions are subject to interpretation. Where Alex Tanous predicted 1970 as a year of unrest for the Catholic Church I wrote (no). I looked up the Catholic Church for 1970 in Facts on File and saw that year as just another period of gradual decline. If you are closer to the subject you might have seen the reports as showing unrest.

Only one prediction left me in the dark. Joseph De Louise predicted Tom Jones' marriage would end in divorce in 1970. Facts on File didn't mention him. I like to feel that even if Tom Jones did get a divorce in 1970, the Facts on File people knew it but left it out.

Following are most of the predictions of 21 psychics covered over the years. At the ends of the predictions are the way

they actually turned out.

JEANE DIXON

National Enquirer Feb. 14, 1971

Mostly for 1971

- Johnny Cash to disappear mysteriously and then reappear after a lot of speculation. (No)
- Dustin Hoffman to win more fame and success in 1971. (No. His only mention in "Facts" was his listing as one of the leads in "Who is Harry Kellerman and Why is He Saying those Terrible Things About Me?")
- Howard Hughes will have big losses financially. (No. His only newsworthy Fact on File was his June 18, 1971 divorce from Jean Peters)
- Tragedy faces Jane Fonda unless she changes her ways. (No. She's still going strong with no visible change in her ways)
- Senator Muskie to get a great boost for his career on his birthday. (No)
- A disaster on the scale of the Peruvian Quake and the Pakistan typhoon will hit in 1971. (No major disasters for that year)
- The economy will grow steadily toward renewed prosperity. (No. Just the opposite)
- King Hussein of Jordan will lose power. (No)
- Palestinian guerillas to disappear once Russian aid is withdrawn. (No)
- South Vietnamese Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky will be responsible for saving the lives of many Americans. (No)
- Assassination attempts against Nixon will be foiled by U.S. Security forces. (No such attempts were reported)

Radio astronomy or "Radio Astrology" to open up new

worlds in science. (No)

■ Senator Henry (Scoop) Jackson to win immortal fame.(No)

■ Angela Davis to have a bad year in which she pays for her bad judgement. (Angela Davis spent 1971 in jail pending her trial which freed her. She was highly publicized and well treated. She has not revised her attitudes and I don't think she regrets that year in the international limelight).

Family Weekly Jan. 18, 1973

● "The key to the return of our POW's lies in Moscow—not



But the LORD told me Jackie was pregnant.

in Hanoi or Laos." (No)

● "Most of our POW's will return in early 1974." (No. This issue was on sale the day after the peace was signed and the first POW's began coming back Feb. 13-14, 1973)

● "The economy of our nation will continue to improve.— Our government will make wonderful strides in economic affairs, which will benefit all." (Aside from the worst floods in 200 years, famine staring us in the face, the dollar going to hell, a disastrous fuel shortage and the near collapse of our government, 1973 looks like a great year)

It is said of Jeane Dixon that she has a record of 85% accuracy. It is also said that figures don't lie but liars figure.

JOSEPH DE LOUISE

Joseph De Louise claims extra sensory perception. I believe he was very good at first. According to the *National Enquirer* he made several right predictions in 1968.

Earthquakes in Mexico, a gold price rise, that his state governor would not seek reelection, that Richard Ogilvie would be governor of Illinois, De Gaulle's reelection and an important breakthrough in atomic energy. They all came true that same year.

He was amazingly accurate in predicting, in detail, a train wreck and a bridge collapse, both causing several fatalities.

National Enquirer May 25, 1969

For 1969

● Jackie Onassis to bear a son. (No)

● A tragedy will involve the Kennedys around water. (The tragedy actually involved the Kopechnes when Mary Jo was drowned after being trapped in a car Teddy drove off a bridge

on July 19, 1969.)

This prophecy got De Louise a lot of publicity. But if you analyze it you will see that it is a simple one. There is nothing great about predicting a tragedy involving any large family. To tie it to water is not much of an improvement. Ted Kennedy, as well as many of the others, lives in Hyannisport and nearly the whole family gets much of their pleasure from water sports.

If a Kennedy child had broken his neck water skiing De Louise would have gotten the same amount of credit for accuracy. Besides, if all the Kennedys had heeded the warning and stayed ashore the drowning would still have occurred. So prophecy or no, it was still worthless)

● Prominent American civil rights leader to be assassinated. (no)

● Crippling transport strike with many union officials arrested. (No)

● Liz Taylor to retire from movies, break up with Richard and have abdominal illness. (No)

● Attempts to burn several colleges and arrests of over 200 ringleaders of the civil unrest. (No)

● Ex-Premier Sukarno to be assassinated. (No)

● New form of birth control acceptable to the Catholic Church. (No)

● Johnny Carson's contract not to be renewed and he is to be replaced in the Tonight Show. (No)

● Panama Canal to be sabotaged. (No)

● Earthquakes crossing Bombay, Thailand, Rangoon, Burma and Philippines, killing thousands Bolivia also, with tremendous loss of life. (No)

● Drastic stock market drop, talk of devaluing dollar. (Yes)

This will touch off a major worldwide financial crisis. (No)

Inflation to continue with government rent and wage freeze. (Yes; the beginning of the end)

National Enquirer Aug. 24, 1969

For 1969 and the future

- Nixon hospitalized. (July 21, 1973 for a few days for viral pneumonia. Hardly a prophecy since it came off four years later. Also, most presidents spend a few days in the hospital)
- Terrible quakes to hit northern California, Oregon and Washington. (Not yet)
- Government scandal that will make the Abe Fortas affair look like a tea party. (If he saw something it could have been Watergate. But it was undated, years in the future and so vague it is only a prophecy if you want it to be one)
- Marriage ahead in the Sinatra family. (If so it didn't make Facts On File)
- Russian space spectacular with 6, 7 or 8 ships linked up to form a space platform. (Not yet)
- Tragic accident to one of Queen Elizabeth's children. (Not yet)
- A divorce, career breakup and narcotics charge to hit Beatles. (So? It probably all happened. I didn't even bother to look it up. Such a prediction would apply, eventually, to any rock group)
- New type plastic heart that will make transplants unnecessary. (Not yet)
- Reagan seems in danger. (Not yet)

The most inaccurate prediction he made in 1969 was that he was going to stop making predictions. He continued to make predictions through 1970, '71 and '72.

He probably decided to stop predicting (or said he would) because of the Kopechne drowning. Such a promise would make most people think he is modest and unassuming.

His modesty is not so impressive, however, after seeing how a little hindsight turned a lucky guess into a crystal clear vision.

His original prediction, in the May 25, 1969 *National Enquirer*, was simple, vague and about as unspecific as a prediction can be. "There will be a tragedy involving the Kennedys around water." That's all there was to it.

But after it happened, he tells us that it was actually so clear that if he had written it down and had it witnessed beforehand he would have been sanctified by no less than Jeane Dixon. Here is how hindsight helped an otherwise ho hum prediction. In the Aug. 24, 1969 *Enquirer* he beefed it up thusly: "Slowly I felt myself become passive, in a kind of trance. Then I started to see water and as I did a woman's face appeared. Her eyes were closed, her hair was floating in the water and bubbles were coming from her mouth.

"Then the name 'Ted Kennedy' appeared, as though in a newspaper headline—then, distinctly, the word 'Drowned.' "

Yet, with such a clear hindsight into the "Kennedy" tragedy, in the same Aug. 24 article he said Ted was politically dead! He added that McGovern would be the Democratic nominee so I guess that puts him back in top place as a prophet.

National Enquirer May 10, 1970

Upcoming and loosely dated if at all

- Red China atomic accident before Sept. 1970 causes worldwide concern. (No)
- Agnew to be shot at but not killed, and soon. (No)
- Castro forced into exile by Aug. 1970. (No)
- Market advances to 900 by Sept. 1970. (No)
- Liz and Richard Burton to separate by fall of 1970. (No)
- Hundreds to die in Mediterranean boat accident by June or July of 1970. (No)
- Rose Kennedy should be guarded from a fall during the warmer months (of 1970?). (No fall reported)

- Tom Jones marriage to run into trouble and divorce proceedings. (Who cares?)
- Aristotle Onassis may be in danger in August or September, 1970. (No danger reported)
- Federal government to launch a mammoth investigation into an Alaskan oil scandal in 1970. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 18, 1970

For 1970

- Two serious but unsuccessful attempts on Agnew's life. (No)
- Nixon to end Viet Nam war in 1970. (No)
- Ted Kennedy to be involved in another car accident. (No)
- Engagement in Nixon family. (No)
- Nixon to announce formation of new police agency to counter revolutionary activities in the U. S. (No)
- Drouth to hit lower midwest. (No)
- Dramatic space rescue in which one ship to be sent up to help another. Russia may be involved. (No)
- Nixon administration shakeup; many government figures ousted. (No. This one would have been perfect if forecast for 1973)

● The last prediction is interesting. You will find many predictions which would have been accurate had they been forecast for some time in the future. Then again, an undated prediction lacks potency. Most predictions concerning governments and economics will come true if you will only be patient.

National Enquirer Jan. 17, 1971

For 1971

- Mrs. Martin Luther King to marry a doctor. (No)

- Pressure will grow to tax religious institutions. (No)
- Worst depression in U.S. history to start in 1971 and end in 1976. (No)
- U.S. to announce two weapons, one using sound waves, the other, laser. (No)
- Japan to have disastrous earthquakes. (No)
- Talk of moving capital to a western state. (No)
- Famous volcano to erupt with great loss of life. (No)
- World will watch a pending change in Russia. (No)
- Government to seriously consider reactivating W.W. II POW camps for dissidents. (No)
- Hundreds to die in a ship fire at sea. (No)
- Four U.S. cities hit by police strikes. National Guard brought in. (No)
- Three major political figures to die, one accidentally. (No)
- Large jet to disappear over the Atlantic with all aboard, including a political official. (No)
- Cancer research breakthrough. (Nothing dramatic)
- Haile Selassie's life to be in great danger. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 16, 1972

For 1972

- Artificial lung implant. (No)
- Government control over radio and TV due to election happenings. (No)
- A shooting around Sinatra. (No)
- Repeal of drug laws to cause release of thousands of marijuana users from jail. (No)
- Japan and China to develop ties (Yes) after U.S. boosts import surtax to 20%. (No)
- A planted bomb will explode at the Republican convention. (No)
- Stock market to soar. (Yes. Dow Jones up to 973.51 on

Aug. 14. Highest in 44 months. Closes over 1000 on Nov. 14.
Highest in history)

REV. MONTE ELLIS (AKASHIAN)

Minister of Spiritual and Divine Science in Los Angeles.

Hits: Israeli attack on U.S. ship during the Six Day War.
Predicted "Famous political man will die between June 6-9,
1968." Bobby Kennedy was killed June 8.

National Enquirer Jan. 18, 1970

For 1970

- Nixon indisposed with stomach trouble. (No)
- Two prominent news people to resign over a verbal attack by Agnew. (No)
- A top Red Chinese to defect to the west. (No)
- An illness to strike someone in the Kennedy family. (No)
- Terrible tornado destruction in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. (No)
- Eastbound plane to crash during Thanksgiving or Xmas holidays. (No)
- Youth in 20's to become strong leader in Israel. (No)
- One Arab nation to fight another. One will appeal to others for help. (Yes. A short, bitter battle was fought by Jordan and Syria. Jordan did ask for help)
- Trouble for Sinatra in Jan. or Feb. (No)
- Jackie Onassis to have marital troubles. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 17, 1971

For 1971

- Agnew to further set himself apart from liberals and gain

support of more people in government. (No)

● Revolution in Egypt backed up by Russian arms. (No)

● Trouble to surround Johnny Carson. (No)

● Underground separatists to rock Canada. Many fires in Montreal. Many killed. (No)

● Billy Graham to suffer from an old ailment. (No)

● Dozen revolutionaries discovered in plot to terrorize large cities. Attempts will be made to burn public buildings including courthouses and police stations. (No)

● Epidemic of unknown virus to hit East Coast and Europe. (No)

● Ari Onassis to become quite ill. (No)

● Barry Goldwater to be in headlines before June. (No)

● Quake around Santa Monica, then other quakes around California. (Nothing worth national coverage)

● Ed Sullivan to be quite ill. (He won an Emmy and was not reported ill)

● Many disorders by revolutionaries ■ break out across U.S. in spring. (No)

● David Frost to marry. (No)

● Tricia Nixon to become engaged. (Probably. She was married June 12)

Russians in a space spectacular. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 16, 1972

For 1972

● U.S. prisoners of war to be released in May or June. (No)

● Jews permitted to leave Russia if they want to, according to a Russian announcement in July. (The *National Enquirer* for Jan. 14, 1973 said that prediction had come true. I saw no such announcement. However, the June 22-28, 1973 issue of *The Jewish Press* tells of 10,000 Jews demonstrating in Washington in an attempt to get Nixon to urge Brezhnev to

free the Russian Jews)

- Successful Nixon visit to China without incident. (Yes)
- Turbulence fomented by dissidents throughout year. (No)
- Nixon wins election by wide margin. (Yes)
- Agnew not running mate and to run for different office. (Wrong)
- New York City to have huge fire, possibly in large department store. (No)
- Hoover to retire in spring. (He died May 2)
- Ted Kennedy will not enter presidential race. (Right) He will, instead, support John Lindsay. (No. He supported McGovern)
- Violence to surround Nixon during trip through Illinois and Ohio. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 14, 1973

For 1973

- Richard Burton in narrow escape, accident or serious illness. (No)
- Quake to hit Italy and Turkey. (No)
- Sickness or death in the Kennedy family. (Yes)
- Howard Hughes in the news over Las Vegas investments. (Yes)
- Small quakes to buckle streets north of Los Angeles. (No)
- Cuba to feel sting of internal dissent. (No)
- Angela Davis to announce a change in philosophy and outlook. (No)
- Johnny Carson to change show's format. (No)

DR. ALEXANDER TANOUS

Claims ESP Hits: Eugene McCarthy to have marital trou-

bles. Judy Garland's name to be in headlines. Ike to die of a heart attack. The Abe Fortas scandal.

National Enquirer Jan. 18, 1970

For 1970

- Clash between Russians and Chinese to concern the world. (No)
- Financially one of U.S.'s greatest years (No)
- Apollo Space Program setback. (Yes. Apollo 13 trouble caused the cancellation of the next two scheduled moon landings)
- Year of unrest in Catholic church. Gap between pope and hierarchy. (No)

MAURICE WOODRUFF

Claims ESP Hits: Told Peter Sellers he would marry a blond with the initials B. E. (Britt Eklund). Show biz personalities find him accurate on personal advice.

National Enquirer Jan. 18, 1970

For 1970

- Peter Sellers to remarry and a blond at least 10 years his junior. (Yes. He was 44 and married blond Miranda Quarry, 23)
- Tricia Nixon engaged to man with initials D or L. (No. She married Edward Finch Cox on June 12)
- Julie Nixon Eisenhower to give birth to a girl. (No)
- Ted Kennedy not to be president in the next eight years and probably never. (Time will tell)
- Cassius Clay to box again successfully, change and become

quieter. (Yes. He scored a knockout on Jerry Quarry Oct. 26 and he did become less of a loudmouth)

- World famous actress with initial C or K to die suddenly by late fall. (No)
- Dallas in the news for a crime involving a church. (No)
- Peter O'Toole to win Oscar for Goodby Mr. Chips. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 16, 1972

For 1972

- Riots in Los Angeles and San Francisco. (No)
- World capitals shaken by disclosure that several prominent men are Reds. (No)
- Ethel Kennedy to announce plans to remarry. (No)
- Supreme Court Justice in sex scandal. (No)
- Bob Hope to make remark which will bring him unpopularity. (No)
- Lucille Ball to retire from show biz. (No)
- Mini-war between Arabs and Israelis. (No)
- Indira Ghandi to lose job. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 14, 1973

For 1973

- World to worry over an illness of the pope. (No)
- Englishman Brian Forbes to get best director Oscar. (No)
- Aristotle Onassis in costly court action leading to scandal. (No)
- Famous American singer dies. (Only one I could find was tenor Louriitz Melchior, 82, March 18)
- Princess Anne romantically linked with one with the initial R or M. (Engagement to Mark Phillips announced May 29, 1973. Getting first and last initials right would have been fine. But to predict "R or M" and only get the initial of the

first name is unworthy of a real prophet)

- New life-prolonging heart patient drug discovered. (No)
- Dollar to be revalued upwards (Certainly not above its 1972 value)

EDWARD SNEDEKER

Claims visions when he concentrates on a person or subject. Hits: Predicted tragedy would hit Lennon Sisters four hours before their father had been killed. Pinpointed site of ten year old's body. Good with predictions for friends. Said Joe Namath would retire then return to football. Said astronaut to have trouble with his right foot. (That was the foot that pulled out the TV cable on the Moon)

National Enquirer Oct. 19, 1969

Upcoming

- Ted Kennedy to run for president in 1976 and lose.
- Mary Jo Kopechne's accident truths to be told. He feels she died in an accidental fall and was put in car. (We can only hope)
- Nixon to be hurt in helicopter accident. (Not yet)
- Caroline Kennedy involved in boating accident. (Not yet)
- Jackie Onassis to give birth around Jan. 1970 and divorce Ari. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 16, 1972

For 1972

- Economic conditions cause several assassinations of government officials. (No)
- New popc elected later in 1972. (No)

- The girls at the party, after which Teddy took Mary Jo a-drowning, will make news again. (No)
- Ari Onassis to be hospitalized for heart trouble. (No)
- Rose Kennedy hospitalized for chest pains. (No)
- Democrats to win by a landslide. (No)
- California National Guard to quell civil disturbances. (No)
- Albuquerque airliner crash in populous area; also quake there. (No)
- Kidnappings to hit prominent families. (No)
- Congress to launch vigorous probe of AMA in Sept. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 14, 1973

For 1973

- Late night TV talk shows to become a thing of the past. (No)
- Civil strife in Cuba and Castro to retire to Russia. (No)
- L. B. J.'s son-in-law to be involved in a serious auto accident. (No)
- Mass exodus from California. (No)

CLARA SCHUFF

Claims psychic powers which "have amazed her followers."
Hits: Obviously good on a personal level. Probably telepathic.

National Enquirer Jan. 18, 1970

For 1970

- Good year for Ted Kennedy and he will be in the running for the presidency. (No)
- Minor quakes on West Coast but no major ones. (None listed)

- Nixon in danger of being poisoned while away from the White House. (No)
- U.S. to establish undersea city. (No)
- New, sensational Mars rocket developed. (No)
- New mineral, unknown substance, discovered on Moon. (No)
- No child for Jackie (True); instead, divorce. (No)
- Agnew and Nixon conflict and Agnew dropped from ticket. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 17, 1971

For 1971

- Business down. (Up slightly) Unemployment up. (No)
- The cure for cancer to be found. (No)
- First (real?) contact with UFO's (Over S.A.). (No)
- California to have several minor quakes. (No. One major, Feb. 9. 62 dead.)
- Reagan narrowly escapes injury from student demonstrator. (No)
- Ten man conspiracy to kill Nixon. (No)
- Revolutionaries to reach peak of activity in spring or early summer. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 16, 1972

For 1972

- Tricia Nixon (Cox) gives birth to son. (No)
- Liz Taylor to retire from films. (No)
- Unsuccessful revolt against Castro to rock Cuba. (No)
- Fantastic discoveries through Moon rocks. (No)
- Nixon to win the youth vote over China trip. (Don't think so)
- Nuclear power station found emitting dangerously. (No)

- Male birth control pill needed only every 21 days. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 14, 1973

For 1973

- Archeologists to discover several secret rooms under one of the pyramids. (No)
- One room has actual pyramid plans plus anti-gravity secrets. (No)
- Howard Hughes to make first public appearance in 20 years to announce charity projects. (No)
- Many Southwest quakes with worst in Arizona. (No)
- Major Pentagon shakeup to lead to excellent defense ideas. (No)

National Enquirer July 30, 1972

RALPH C. (DOC) ANDERSON

Claims trances and scenes in mind's eye Hits Assassination of Martin L. King two days before his death. Also Bob Kennedy, Date of German's surrender and atomic bomb dropped on Japan. Also Japan's surrender ten days later.

National Enquirer April 11, 1971

For 1971 and 1972

- Nixon to lose 1972 election. (No)
- Cracks in earth's crust to cause Alaska quake. (No)
- George Wallace to make bigger bid for the presidency. (No)
- Alaska mineral rush like gold rush. (No)
- Major incident between U.S. and China within eight months to lead to war. (No)
- Ted Kennedy won't run for president. (Right)
- Great U.S. leader to die early part of 1971. (Thomas

Dewey died March 16, Thomas Dodd died May 24. I don't think he meant either of those clowns)

- Viet Nam war to get bigger. (No)
- George Raft to make movie comeback. (No)
- North Korean fight incident in which U. S. troops involved. (No)
- Evidence James Earl Ray did not kill Martin L. King. (No)
- Major famine in U.S. within two years. (No)
- Riots in 1971, burning of Washington, D.C. (No)

DAVID RUBAR

Claims to be psychic. Hits: Death of Senator Everett Dirksen, the linking of three Russian space ships and the election of George Wallace for governor. Genuinely psychic on person-to-person basis. Probably telepathic

National Enquirer Mar. 21, 1971

For 1971 and 1972

- John Wayne should be careful of his throat. (Shouldn't we all?)
- New source of energy will be discovered. (No)
- Suicidal air attack on U.S. building with small plane and explosives. (No)
- Ted Kennedy in danger from air accident. (No)
- Cure for some major diseases, including cancer by early 1974.
- Elvis Presley to become one of the greatest spiritual leaders of our time. (Ha!)
- Bad quake to hit Southwest during hot weather. (No)
- Marlon Brando should avoid demonstrations lest he suffer a head injury. (No demos or injuries reported)

- Jackie connected with a new baby, possibly her own. (No)

MARC REYMONT

Claims predictions of headlines. Hits: Obvious clairvoyant concerning many general, local headlines like "Nation Told Horrors of County Jail." He also predicted such news stories as a photographer killed in Cambodia, alarms out for suspects in presidential assassination plot and Army doctor cleared of murder charges.

So what happened?

National Enquirer Dec. 13, 1970

For 1971 and 1972

- Major train wreck in Indiana Jan., 1971. (No)
- U.S. troops in Latin America in 1971. (No)
- Lindsay to defeat Nixon. (No)
- U.S. out of Viet Nam by Oct. or Nov., 1972. (No)
- Agnew never again to hold significant national office. (No)
- International incident involving a U.S. ship troubling Russia in Feb. 1971. (No)
- Wierd FBI shakeup by late 1971 or early 1972. (No)

MADAME REBECCA HABIBI

Card reader. Claims gift from "God". Hits: Said in 1939 that Eisenhower would be president and serve two terms. Gives card readings for individuals with good results. Tests out well. Undoubtedly telepathic and probably actually clairvoyant at one time.

National Enquirer June 29, 1969

For 1970 and 1972

- Jackie Onassis to bear daughter in about a year. (No)
- Viet Nam War to end early in 1970. (No)
- Ted Kennedy to run for president in 1972 and lose. (No. He didn't run)

National Enquirer Jan. 18, 1970

For 1970

- Jackie to stay married for the time being. (Yes)
- Someone to try to kill President Nixon. (No. An assassination plot was reported but it did not get to the point where it could be called "an attempt")
- Nixon to be ill. (No)
- Viet Nam war over before end of 1970. (No)
- Nixon's popularity to rise. (Yes. Headed "Most admired" list in 1970)

National Enquirer Jan. 17, 1971

For 1971

- Viet war to end (No) but campus violence to continue. (No)
- Reagan to lose public favor, finish term and retire. (No)
- Great economic trouble with increasing unemployment. (No)
- Agnew to face much violence and retire. (No)
- Jackie to bear child and marriage to go smoothly. (No)
- Fighting among Arab nations. (No)
- Tricia Nixon to marry late 1971 or early 1972. (No. She married on June 12, 1971 which was mid-year)
- California to have small quakes. (So? California has small

quakes constantly)

- Russia and China to clash along their border. (No)

MRS. SHIRLEY HARRISON

Claims extra sensory perception. Hits: John F. Kennedy's assassination, Jack Ruby's natural death and the exact place the Boston Strangler would strike next. She has made many detailed projections of future events and of hidden things like the body of a murdered boy.

She is obviously psychic but has little ability to know true ESP from wild hunches.

National Enquirer Jan. 14, 1973

Up to 1979

- Russia will make the first manned Moon landing. (No)
- Jackie and Ari will stay together in Greece and Jackie will stay out of politics. (All true so far)
- Statement of the reality of UFO's from outer space will be made within ten years.
- Contact with other life form of superior intelligence within ten years.
- Devaluation of U.S. Dollar. (Yes)

TASSIA LOUTA

Greek astrologer. Hits: John Kennedy's assassination and Jackie's marriage to Ari.

National Enquirer Feb. 21, 1971

For 1971

- Devaluation of the dollar. (Yes)
- Reshuffling in Kremlin and friendship with China. (No)
- Leading Russian figure to die. (Yes. Krushchev)
- French government to fall. (No)
- Public reaction against U.S. government with violent upheavals in the spring. (No)
- Failing health for Ari Onassis. (No)
- Major theft embarrasses White House. (No)
- King Hussein in danger of death unless he abdicates. (No)
- War between Arabs and Israel. (No)
- Major space triumph for U.S. to leave world breathless. (I don't know about breathless, but the Apollo 14 and 15 Moon landings were successful)
- Princess Anne of England engaged to a commoner. (No)
- Assassination attempts on Nixon and Agnew. (No)

MRS. DOROTHY ALLISON

Claims to receive visions. Hits Bombing-kidnap plot against Washington buildings and Henry Kissinger. Bobby or Ted Kennedy to be killed by Arab or Hindu in a kitchen or restaurant west of New Jersey.

National Enquirer March 7, 1971

For 1971 and 1972

- Jackie and Ari to divorce by 1973. (No)
- Nixon to be defeated in election. (No)
- Johnson may seem to be dying but he will regain his health and be better than before. (No. He died)
- Nixon in danger of assassination. (No)
- Viet Nam War to continue. (Yes)

Shooting around Sinatra. (No)

John-John in danger. (No)

Ted Kennedy to run for president and win. (No)

Agnew to miss out on second term as Vice President. (No)

Howard Hughes to have a lot of trouble with one woman.
(Yes, I suppose. He divorced Jean Peters June 18, 1971)

MARJORIE STAVES

British clairvoyant. Claims she is projected to another dimension where she reads the vibrations of individuals. Hits: Muhammad Ali's victory over Sonny Liston, deaths of the three astronauts and death of race driver Donald Campbell.

National Enquirer Feb. 28, 1971

For 1971

Nixon in grave danger on water or crossing it. (No)

Great danger from Japan. (No)

Nixon to be re-elected in 1972. (Yes)

End to 1970 recession by mid-year of 1971. (No)

Muhammad Ali to beat Joe Frazier. (No)

American involvement in Middle East war. (No)

Assassination of a foreign head of state. (No)

Radical shakeup in Vatican. (No)

For 1973

● Africa to explode into tribal warfare. (No)

● America to play major role in great inroads into cure for cancer. (No)

● Assassination attempt on Illinois area congressman about



Now this here gob of leaves means Ethel Kennedy will run off with a bippy.

mid-year. (No)

England disturbed over Queen's illness. (Not yet)

Two great Hollywood stars to die suddenly. (Take your pick: Betty Grable, Jack Hawkins, Robert Ryan, Buster Keaton, Wally Cox, Michael Dunn, Laurence Harvey and Bobby Darin)

Terrible hurricane to hit Florida with great loss of life. (No)

MRS. KATHARINE SABIN

Claims to be an objective card reader and that she taps her subconscious mind. Hits: Death signs around Ted Kennedy. Grand Jury to clear Ted in Kopechne drowning. Romantic scandal over Jackie Onassis' interest in another man. Illness for someone in the space program. (Charles Duke got German measles)

National Enquirer May 24, 1970

Upcoming

Joan and Ted Kennedy to stay together. (Yes)

In Washington rioting likely around White House, landmark or art object burned. (Not yet)

Nixon faces assassination danger. (Not yet) (In light of so many assassination attempts being successful over the years and predictions along this line being so common, I think "danger" should be defined.

Oswald's attempt on the life of John Kennedy, Sirhan's attempt against Bobby Kennedy and James Earl Ray's attempt against Martin Luther King were all successful. John Bremner's attempt to kill George Wallace was not successful. Several years ago some armed Puerto Ricans got onto the White House grounds in an attempt to kill Truman. A couple of them were killed by Secret Service men and the assassination attempt was foiled.

Now in all these attempts, whether successful or not, the targets were in danger. Action had been taken to make good the threat.

But some loudmouthed drunk holding forth in a bar or a group of crazed militants plotting in a tenement does not constitute danger or an assassination attempt. It is only when they arm themselves and leave the premises in the direction of the target that a prediction of "danger" or "an assassination attempt" is valid)

Ted Kennedy to lose 1970 senate election. (No)

Pat Nixon will be ill but recovers. (Not yet)

Ethel Kennedy to marry within a year. (No)

JACQUELINE EASTLUND

Claims doing "God's" work. Hits: Personal for Elke Sommers' husband, Joe Hyams. "I see your dining room in flames

next year." To Rona Barrett. "I see you in the midst of a number of bodies not far from your home. I see knife wounds and much blood. I think it might be a scene from a movie but you are so appalled that it must be real." Rona was first at the scene of the Tate murders the next day. Predicted a plane crash only hours away and even saw several of its numbers.

SYBIL LECK

Witch, astrologer and author of 20 books on occultism.

Through 1974

Reagan to lose election. (No)

Russians to have a new premier within one year. (No)

POW release in 1972. (No)

Riots in Russia between 1972 and late 1974. (Not yet)

Disaster in Ethiopia by March 1973. (No)

Physicist to defect from Russia and seek asylum here by April 29, 1973. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 14, 1973

For 1973

Hidden chamber found in Great Pyramid with key to many scientific mysteries. (No)

New planet to be discovered and named. (No)

Elvis Presley in tremendous changes in his attempt to get right with God. (No)

Nearly overall cancer cure. (No)

Nixons to become grandparents twice. (No)

Kennedy children in tragic headlines. (Yes)

National Enquirer Jan. 17, 1971

For 1971

Terrorism to sweep the country, especially against innocent people. (No)

Nixon to face two major crises April and June-July. (No)

Agnew in trouble; job and health. (No)

Huge public monument, possibly Lincoln Memorial, to be destroyed by terrorists. (No)

Year of natural disasters for Japan. (No)

Jackie closer to kids. (No)

Strong outside influence on Ari Onassis. (No)

VD recognized as big a problem as cancer, war, road accidents. (No)

Complete breakdown in New York subway system with many casualties. (No)

Liz Taylor to get more film honors plus marital troubles. (No)

Americans in great numbers to migrate to other countries, especially Australia. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 16, 1972

For 1972

Nixon to lose election, possibly to Humphry. (No)

Hoover's FBI reign to end. (Yes. He died May 2)

FBI scandal which can't be hushed up. (No)

March fatalities from Pacific Coast quakes. (Yes. 30 die in Peru quake March 20)

Mao Tse Tung to die by June. (No)

Assassination attempt against Indira Gandhi and more danger in Feb. (No)

National Enquirer Jan. 14, 1973

For 1973

Nixon in danger around Xmas Eve. (No)

Unusual, extreme West Coast weather to cause large landslides. (No)

Shortly after June 21, news of Castro's health. (No)

In April, Prince Charles linked romantically with regal Nordic. (No)

South Vietnamese government to fall late in the year. (No)

In July a freak mining disaster east of the Mississippi. (No)

Unemployment, especially among highly educated. (Yes)

CARROLL RIGHTER

Astrologer. Hits: Good with personalities.

National Enquirer Jan. 17, 1971

For 1971

Canadian separatists to trouble Trudeau. (No)

Pornography to lose its appeal here and around world. (Ha!)

Agnew in danger. (No)

Jackie to devote more time to kids, avoid public eye. (No)

Cold war to get colder. (Yes)

Franco to remain healthy. (Yes)

● Queen Elizabeth to have a financial disappointment. (In 1971 Bessie had a personal fortune of \$4,800,000. She only got a \$1,140,000 yearly allowance and wanted more. Let's get a Bundles For Bessie drive going like during the war)

● U.S. to drop peace at any price, take belligerent stance in foreign affairs. (No)

● Nixon to draw opposition to his policies. (Yes) Youth is with him. (No)

Viet Nam War to end with help of outsiders. (No)

Government to try to appease rebellious youth then will use repressive measures. (No)

Queen Elizabeth to suffer unhappiness in family relationships. (No)

Middle East problems to be solved. (No)

In the April 11, 1971 issue of *The National Enquirer*, Carroll Righter gave J. Edgar Hoover's personal horoscope. For 1972 he said, "Emerging from 1971, Hoover will face a very satisfactory 1972 in terms of improved health, effectiveness and all-out happiness." Hoover died May 2, 1972.

Now such a horoscope is not just a mistake, nor is it simply one of those cute "how wrong can you get?" items for a humor column. Instead, it is an example of the kind of stupidity and bungling which holds the science of astrology up to ridicule.

Had Righter only predicted a big change in Hoover's life we believers would have been satisfied. And there is no getting out of it by saying the prediction was for Hoover's life on the other side.

If an astrologer of note can't look at the horoscope of a strong personality and see such a climax as death in his chart then either that astrologer is not worthy of his calling or astrology is all foolishness.

PETER CLARK

British astrologer.

National Enquirer Jan. 14, 1973

Much tighter price controls in U.S. economy. (Yes)

South America to have a disaster bringing world aid. (Yes)

The Nicaraguan earthquake)

Princess Anne engaged (Yes) but not to wed for two years.
(Wrong)

Great changes in Indian Government. (Not Yet)

Princess Anne's problems with parents to make world headlines. (Not yet)

Nixon to face serious trade wars. (Yes)

Wave of violence in U.S. to shock the nation. (Not yet)

MRS. FLORENCE VATY

Astrologer to movie stars.

National Enquirer Jan. 14, 1973

New planet to be discovered and named for peace. (Not yet)

Jackie and Ari to experience a tragedy. (Not yet)

Cancer research to produce cures for common cold and arthritis. (Not yet)

Research this year leads to overall cancer cure in 1974.

RAYMOND E. KELLY

In early 1972 the *National Enquirer* held a contest for the best amateur prophets for that year. They got 1075 entries and opened them in January 1973.

Raymond E. Kelly, 45, of Greensboro, N. C. sent in the allowed five predictions and *The Enquirer* received them on March 22, 1972. Four were completely right and the fifth was not completely wrong.

J. Edgar Hoover will die.



Jeane Dixon

Joseph De Louise

Akashan

Maurice Woodruff

Dorothy Allison

Edward Snedeker

Clara Schuff

David Bubar

Madame Rebecca Habibi

Marc Reymont

Marjorie Staves

Tassia Louta

Jacqueline Eastlund

Sybil Leek

Carroll Richter

Katherine Sabin

- An assassination attempt on the life of George Wallace.
- The Reelection of Nixon.
- The abolishment of capital punishment
- Mayor John Lindsay of New York not to be reelected.

Lindsay was not reelected mainly because no election was held for mayor of New York in 1972. So technically, Lindsay was not reelected. He just stayed on.

A second place winner got three right and the winner of third place scored on two. There were two honorable mentions with one right each

So out of 1075 contestants allowed five predictions each, there were only 11½ right forecasts. This would be about one right out of about 450 predictions. Also, out of the 1075 contestants there were only five who scored at all or one out of 211

Of the professional prophets, only 16 out of the 21 scored at all. Out of 400 predictions, only 43 were right or partially right. This would be about one out of ten right for the professionals as opposed to only one out of 450 for the amateurs.

We have no way of knowing what the amateurs guessed. It is obvious, however, that they were random to the point of absurdity. Nor would they have been educated guesses as the professionals came up with. At any rate, the amateurs were not making claims to ESP or divine guidance.

The educated guess counts for a lot in prophecy. It is also meaningful in other forecasts. If laymen meteorologists or baseball fans were matched for predictions against professional weathermen or sportswriters the gap in accuracy would be about the same.

Educated guesses are arrived at by prophets through their studies of trends. They have more contacts among news-

makers and they are constantly questioned about their contacts and coming events.

They have a broader field of general knowledge and the questions they get key their minds into specific issues. With this help their sub and superconsciousnesses are better able to get in gear.

The prophet takes his question, based on whatever knowledge he has on the subject and files it in his subconscious. His superconscious takes it from there, taps *The Source* for the answer, and then runs it back through the subconscious.

If the prophet doesn't have a good frame of reference in his subconscious the message from his superconscious will be garbled. Or it may be so vague that any interpretation sent out will be accepted by the prophet. You would be surprised to learn what kind of garbled and vague interpretations an ignorant subconscious will pawn off as the truth on his equally ignorant prophet.

If you have read of the Oracles of Delphi you will know that they were ignorant country girls who sat over fissures in the earth where gasses came through and made them giddy. Important people would ask them questions and they would give back garbled messages which often proved true, after the event occurred.

It was believed that the ignorance of the girls would keep them from giving prejudiced answers. However, their ignorance meant a very poor frame of reference for dealing with any political or military questions fed to them. So their answers were delivered in such a childish and over-simplified manner that they were usually worse than no answers at all.

It is often said of Nostradamus that his prophecies were impossible to decipher until they had come true. It is believed by many that he put his prophecies into seemingly meaningless doggerel lest he offend his king, Charles IX.

In 1558 Nostradamus published his main prophetic work.



Making our cows go dry was one thing, but making Gloria Steinem...?

Its prophecies carry through to around 2000 A.D. Surely if Nostradamus had feared his king he would have only garbled those prophecies relating to him or to his interests. The same goes for his prediction that, as interpreted by some, the Catholic Church would collapse. At any rate, prophecies for times after he expected to die would have been plainer.

But the later the prophecies are for, the more garbled they are. This is simply because his subconscious had no adequate frame of reference to give data on events so far ahead. Changes even a hundred years ahead could be understood. But beyond that, the images and terms coming into his subconscious simply would not relate to those images and terms familiar to his own time.

Even in our time, technology has so far outpaced the average vocabulary that we depend on TV for all our imagery and would be hard put to explain anything mechanical. You may remember wanting to discuss a subject with someone and using, as a point of reference, a TV program which had covered

the subject. When you learn your friend did not see the program the conversation lapses because unless he saw the program he won't understand what you are talking about.

So the better the education of the prophet, the clearer the prophecy if it is anything besides social gossip or very basic current events. But if it is technical, if it involves military, political or foreign intrigue, it takes a highly educated prophet to receive it with any clarity.

If it is of the far future, not only must the prophet be well-educated but so must his audience. H.G. Wells and Hugo Gernsback wrote of many things that have since come true. As science fiction writers they were remarkably intelligent and well-educated. Their readers were also in the top category of brains. Average people simply could not understand Wells and Gernsback until today when we have movies and TV to supply the imagery and girls like Raquel Welch to explain the plots.

So the uneducated prophet is limited. He may indeed start out with a few seemingly unbidden visions which will astound many by their accuracy. These are nearly always of tragedies common to our times and simple to describe and to understand.

Then the prophet comes to believe he has been touched by "God." From now on he is performing. He puts in a request for an answer to a question. If his superconscious picks it up at all, it may take days to run the answer back through his subconscious. His ignorance may distort it then even if it is a true prophecy.

But he is impatient. He believes that since he has asked he shall receive, NOW. So he takes the first silly answer that occurs to him. That is why the answers he submits to the *National Enquirer* are so pitiful when compared to the hits that won him fame.

The only way he can beat the time lag or be assured of an-

swers which can be understood, especially if he is poorly educated, is to operate through trance. There, his conscious mind is asleep and his superconscious can operate directly through his subconscious with the terminology and imagery his audience can understand.

This is how Edgar Cayce worked. He was uneducated and would have understood little of what came through him. But his superconscious bypassed his ignorance and spoke directly to those who could understand the answers they sought.



3

MY OWN RAMBLINGS IN THE PSYCHIC WORLD

I REMEMBER skipping to school at the age of six. I was in the first grade at P.S. 82 in Brooklyn. A new thought entered my head as I skipped; "Who was I before I was me?"

A picture followed the thought; of a Union Cavalry officer on a horse. I don't remember having been impressed by any pictures of Civil War soldiers. Nor do I remember ever hearing of the idea of reincarnation. Mama was straight Church of Christ and Daddy was devout Grand Ol' Opry. I'm certain the concept was never mentioned in our home.

For some reason I never brought up my new idea at home. It never became a part of my religious thought. I kept believing the Bible and going to church. Only I stopped being afraid of all the hell-fire sermons screamed at us by the preacher.

I don't claim to have ever had any psychic leanings. I was always more of a curiosity seeker than a mystic.

In 1953, at the age of twenty, I joined the Rosicrucian Order (AMORC). You see their ads in all the magazines. Their commonest ad featured Ben Franklin, Isaac Newton and Francis Bacon. "These great minds were Rosicrucians. . .

What secret powers did they possess?"

I sent for their free book, "The Mastery of Life" and after I read it I just had to sign up.

I joined the Nefertiti Lodge in Chicago. The members were the friendliest, most intelligent group I had ever met. Their rituals were beautiful. The pretty colombs with their semi-Egyptian costumes really turned me on. Everything was decorated like in ancient Egypt. It was just like coming home.

While with the Nefertiti Lodge I also joined the Martinist Order.

I stayed a Rosicrucian until late 1961 and got to the Eleventh Degree, Monograph ninety-one. I had learned a lot but it had gotten too routine for me. Even so, that group might keep you fascinated for the rest of your life.

The most interesting thing that I learned through the Rosicrucians was how to prove reincarnation. I was with friends at the home of John Jones, who had been a Rosicrucian for just ages. Jonesy was a very old and wonderfully good man and was much like the High Lama in Lost Horizon.

Someone asked him if there was any way to prove reincarnation. He answered that the Aura had impressed upon it every image the Soul had ever worn. He could demonstrate it.

He then had me sit in front of a full-length mirror. Then he put out all the lights except a dim one nearby. This was to cut out all background distractions.

I was told to relax although I could blink if I wished and I didn't need to sit perfectly still. After less than five minutes, my features in the mirror began to change.

Slowly, one personality after another appeared, all me. The happy thing about it was that all the people there saw the same images I was seeing and at the same times.

Most of the images were of old people or military types. This is because the image is retained on the Aura near the end of each life. As military types I probably volunteered a lot.

Some were bearded and some clean shaven. Some were even women. There were children, of course, indicating I had died young those times.

The personalities were even wearing period costumes. There were no recognizable personalities in my past although Jonesy pointed out one notable character type. This was a Knights Templar with a bowl type haircut being burned at the stake by the Church. I must have been framed. I have always had feelings of hostility towards the Catholic Church, maybe because of that.

I have since conducted the mirror goody for others. Once was with my Taos News editor, Jim Colgrove. He appeared, strikingly, as a German burgermeister type. He, his wife and I saw the same thing, along with the usual panorama of past players.

I told a girl, name of Holly, about this experiment and when she went home she and her husband tried it. She told me that at one time she appeared as a near skeleton; probably having died of starvation. This so terrified her husband that he actually ran and hid under the bed. Of course, he wasn't very stable and she wasn't much better off.

You can also conduct this experiment alone. I suggest a mirror that at least takes in your head and chest. Have a candle burning off to one side and no other light.

Next, I got involved with the Agasha Temple of Wisdom in Los Angeles, run by Richard Zenor. He was a trance medium and had a huge hall on Western Avenue. I liked it there but it was pretty phoney.

Zenor's spirit guide would come through and introduce some popular figure like Abe Lincoln or Jesus. They would each go on with such dull and uninspired rubbish I was amazed that they thought they could get away with it. Even a spirit wouldn't be caught dead with that dialogue.

Then, high mucky-muck world movers would come

through predicting terrible earthquakes and giving exact locations and dates. They would always add that they were doing all in their power to prevent them.

So if the quakes didn't happen they were heroes for having prevented them. If they did come about they had predicted them. Either way, they couldn't lose.

Hal Rodrian, a friend I had met at Zenor's, invited me to visit a trance medium he had been going to on the sly. He said one of her spirits, Aganon, was my guide and wanted to talk to me.

I went with him to a home presided over by a blowzy old lady, typical of trance mediums. There were about a dozen people there and we all, except the medium, sat around in a circle on the floor in the dark.

At first the guides of the regular members came through, telling them how they were solving all their problems, from acne to car payments. One guide came through to a young woman and told her he was working on her throat so she could become a trance medium. She was thrilled.

Another woman was being developed by her guide to improve her psychic powers. She said she saw a spirit dog in the middle of the group. I spoke up and said I was petting the dog. She and a man said they saw me petting the dog. My hands were resting by my sides on the floor. There was no dog.

Finally Aganon came through to me. He told me I was an old soul and really terrific and he had been with me all my life. I said that was fine but what did he want to talk to me about?

He said he was going to make me into the greatest trance medium in history. I told him I didn't want to be a trance medium. He said he knew best because he was 30,000 years old.

I answered that if he knew me at all he would know I



I'm your spirit guide and I know what's best for you

wouldn't be a trance medium and sleep through anything going on. Furthermore, if he felt a need for another trance medium he could damn well get born and be a trance medium himself.

It's been years so I don't exactly remember how it ended but he said he had to go as he had something burning on the stove, or some spiritual equivalent, and signed off. After that things were sort of left hanging and the meeting broke up sooner than planned.

As Hal drove me home he said they didn't want me back there.

The next bunch I began running with was the flying saucer fanatics.

I attended a big saucer convention at a large hall in Los Angeles sometime in the late 1950's. It was set up by Gabriel Green and represented saucer enthusiasts, some of whom were quite sincere. But others were the most pathetic phonics imaginable.

One example of the sincere ones was two boys in their late teens who had watched a saucer for 45 minutes one night. It was hovering high overhead and had lights beneath it.

One of the boys had a flashlight and he would blink it on and off in a pattern. The saucer would blink back, imitating the pattern. There was a highway patrolman on the scene and he verified the sighting and even signed an affidavit to that effect.

Then there was some clown claiming he had broken the code on the footprint of George Van Tassel's desert spaceman. It seems this hippy from Venus was clumping about Van Tassel's place. He couldn't speak English so after making with a lot of sign language and modeling his uniform he sagely pointed to his shoe sole and the imprint it had left on the ground.

The print consisted of various squiggles and symbols. When he left, Van Tassel copied the print and sent it to friends. They promptly tried to work a lot of religio-mystical significance into it.

I can imagine going to Venus and leaving my footprints in their sand. It would be fun to keep in touch and see what kind of religion they would make up from CAT'S PAW, GOODYEAR or some other trade mark stamped into my shoe sole.

Another saucerite was this desperately ugly woman calling herself Dawn something or other. I wouldn't have noted her



In my true form on Venus I'm a beautiful princess.

homeliness if she hadn't emphasized it herself.

She said these Venusian spacemen took her on their saucer to Venus. There, they worshipped her and transformed her into a lovely princess, which was her true form.

My main complaint about this convention was that Green did no screening of saucerites to separate the serious sighters from the obvious frauds. The saucer with the blinking lights attested to by the patrolman's affidavit seemed genuine. Also Major Donald Keyhoe's representative was plausible. But including the mystic fanatics and people like the pitiful,

ego-starved Dawn on the same program just held the whole UFO phenomenon up to ridicule.

While at that convention I met one of Mother Mary's followers who invited me to one of her saucer contact meetings. Mother Mary presided and she claimed to have been to India and all over, talking to more "Masters" than I had thought existed. She was also keyed in on all our friends from outer space.

One fellow there played a tape he said he'd gotten from a radio message beamed from a saucer. It was full of sweetness and light and was all garbage as far as I was concerned. It was a combination of the New Testament and Star Trek.

Another of her members used a home-movie screen to project pictures of his camping trip. In one picture he was sitting in front of his house trailer. A high burning campfire blotted out part of him and the trailer.

The next picture was of the same scene but here the man and his trailer showed plainly through the flames. He said the photo developer claimed he had never seen anything like it and couldn't figure out how it happened. The man said the space people had done it.

The people in the group carried on like it was the Second Coming. Mother Mary, the pudgy old wretch, just sat back and smiled knowingly.

Well, I smiled knowingly, too. It was just a simple double exposure. Anyone at all objective, especially the photo developer, would have recognized it as such. The man was a liar and his audience were fools. They were so anxious to believe in visitors from outer space that they would accept even the most ridiculous evidence to back up their beliefs.

The last I heard of Mother Mary was that she finally moved to Mount Shasta and there passed on to her reward; a wooden nickel and a slug.

In 1964 I went to Phoenix and got a job as an attendant in the Arizona State Nuthouse. That was a ball. I mainly worked in the hospital's hospital ward. The patients there were not only mentally ill but physically ill, too. You can't beat odds like that.

For a while I was truly my brother's keeper. But when I handed in my keys it was every man for himself and let the devil take the hindmost.

In 1967 I joined Anton La Vey's Satanic Church in San Francisco. My purpose was to learn witchcraft and black magic.

So-called "white" magicians say that magic is magic and it is the use you put it to which makes it black or white. This is simply not so.

The white witch, fooling around with her crosses, rosaries, etc., is getting results, if any, from her own psychic force. But the black witch is invoking the aid of elementals and other lower entities to do her work. She doesn't have to be any more psychic than Archie Bunker.

These elementals, familiars and such non-human life forms are all on the black or negative spectra in the spiritual realm. They can be telepathic or quite psychic in other ways. But even if they do have psychic ability they are usually stupid and most often bungle things.

It gives me laughs to hear of so-called "Christian" mediums calling them to give messages to clients. They will come through posing as Aunt Abigail, a husband, a departed cousin, and give the most loving comfort to the sobbing suckers.

They can give sermons that would inspire Billy Graham. But every "soul" coming through a medium is spiritually as black as the ace of spades.

It doesn't matter to them if they come through in a church



A church or a Ouija board: a job's a job.

or a coven or even through a Ouija board. They will go anywhere they can get work. Their prime urge is to function and be recognized as beings; any beings.

For all practical purposes, the spirit manifests through the physical. The disembodied human and animal spirit can get a new body to work through, and does. The non-human/non-animal spirit, however, is stuck as only a fleshless unit of conscious energy and so has to fake it through mediums, witches,

etc.

Someone should write a "Grapes of Wrath" for elementals. They are truly the Oakies of the nether world.

The Satanic Church was a fun group for a while. Even so, I found the great majority there were only acting out their resentment against conventional sexual mores and orthodox religion. Few seemed really interested in black magic or witchcraft.

I found Anton to be extremely intelligent and entertaining. I also found that he was possessed of more actual human goodness than most of the preachers and psychic types I had met.

While in his group I became the most skilled maker of functional magic amulets and talismans. They are collector's items today.

A big part of the activity there was trying to bring forth Satan. We tried and tried and tried. Lord knows I tried. But nothing ever happened. Maybe it was all the giggling or maybe he was off trying to get some preacher's daughter to kiss on her first date.

In June of 1968 I plunged into Scientology. I had dabbled in it while I was in Sydney, Australia in 1963. I had no money then so I figured that now, while I had a good job on a newspaper I should try it again.

The idea behind Scientology is that all your hangups, psychosomatic illnesses, neuroses, psychosis, etc., are caused by incidents improperly stored in your subconscious mind. Incidents and phrases are recalled out of context to apply to situations where, if you were able to examine them logically, you could see they could not apply to your present situation at all.

But since they are on a subconscious level where they can't



And nobody brought the bus down?



be examined logically, they pop up, unasked for at the worst times and make you look like an idiot. For instance, you may have been attacked by a vicious dog at the age of two. Now at thirty-two you are confronted by another vicious, snarling mutt. Instead of just kicking him across the street you subconsciously hark back to your traumatic reaction at the age of two and go into a screaming fit.

L. Ron Hubbard elaborates on this idea beautifully in his first book, "Dianetics, the Modern Science of Mental Health." He calls the subconscious the "reactive mind" and the traumatic incidents or phrases "ingrams".

I believe his original ideas and his approach to the problem to be much more valid than those of modern psychiatrists. I won't go further into it here but if you are interested, get Hubbard's book on Dianetics. If you do, be sure to take one 100 milligram tablet of niacin each day while reading Dianetics. Hundreds of buried incidents are reviewed in his book and many will apply to everyone so they will stimulate you and dredge up long repressed bad experiences. The niacin will alleviate the depressing symptoms which might occur.

Hubbard's theory in Dianetics was that if you dredge up all your traumas you will be "clear", that is, free from all your neuroses. This would naturally make you a lot better than you are now. His first book gives a method which is slow but is quite capable of producing great benefits to its practitioners.

But well enough has never been let alone. Hubbard next launched a broader scope of its application which promised to remove such bad incidents from all one's past lives. He calls this advance "Scientology" and now promises virtual godhood.

This is supposedly achieved with a kind of lie detector called an "E-Meter". The E-Meter has two wires leading from it and they are attached to two tin cans. The subject or "pre-

clear" holds a can in each hand and is asked questions.

If the question is sensitive and bothers the preclear the needle on the meter moves. The question is then repeated until the preclear has dredged up all the buried material on that issue. When the needle stops moving another question is dealt with.

It is surprising how deep one can probe in this way and it beats lying around on a psychiatrist's couch and lying. Because, in the hands of an operator who really knows his E-Meter the preclear can't get away with lying as he can with the psychiatrist. And the goal is identical.

I learned on my first 1968 session that there will be a "read" on any improperly answered question. My "auditor" was a girl who asked if I had ever been "audited" before.

I told her, "No".

She said, "There's a read on that. Have you ever been audited before?"

I answered, "I ought to know and I say 'no'".

She said, "There's still a read on it. Better think back".

Then it flashed into my mind that I had been audited before in Sydney five years back. I had not forgotten my association with the Sydney Scientologists. But I had only been on the E-Meter a few minutes a couple of times as part of an introductory course in the science. I didn't consider that I *was* being audited. But my subconscious knew.

A lie detector would have passed me on that, but not the E-Meter!

I was impressed, amazed and convinced.

All might have gone well, for a little while, if they weren't saddled with their stupid "suppressives" list. This concerned any organization, group or person who might be opposed to Scientology. It almost goes without saying that a suppressive is also anyone Hubbard is or might be opposed to, especially any competitive therapy or mystical philosophy.

It would appear that their reaction to suppressives would be only in the interests of the person being audited. After all, they would want the preclear to be relatively free from distracting influences.

If one is undergoing any kind of therapy those closest to him should give him encouragement. But if they are openly opposed to the therapy and slander the therapist, they are holding the person back, if not actually doing him harm.

So the preclear is supposed to break all ties with those opposed to his being audited. Fine so far, but what if it is his wife? Leave her. A boss? Quit work. A church? Drop out.

No compromise. No working it out or adjusting to a less than ideal situation until they have helped you to rise above it. Just break clean and usually without notice. No letters. No phone calls. When they say break, they mean it!

And you must do it just the way they say. The E-Meter knows! And if you have phoned; if you still even have photos or souvenirs of the suppressive the E-Meter will tell on you. Then you are sent to the Ethics Officer.

Do you remember being sent to the principal when you were naughty at school? It's funny as you look back on it. But it wasn't funny then and the same thing is even less funny now that you are an adult.

My undoing was partly because of witchcraft. I was no longer a warlock and had no contact with any such group. But I had told them of my past membership in the Church of Satan. But I did have an excellent collection of books on witchcraft and the occult.

One of those books is an original copy of the third edition of "Saducismus Triumphatus" by Joseph Glanville and Henry More, printed in 1686. Another is "Letters on the Truths Contained in Popular Superstitions" by Herbert Mayo, M. D. printed in 1849. Both of these books are priceless and virtually unobtainable and I was bloody well not going to give



Baphomet or Satanic goat

them up.

Their possession had nothing to do with my recalling past incidents. It was simply a contest of wills. Unless I submitted totally to *their* will I was out. They wouldn't have it any other way.

In submitting to their will thousands of families have been broken up. The situation has gotten so bad that several countries have tried to ban Scientology.

The cruelest and most stupid example of the rejection of suppressives is described in Robert Kaufman's "Inside Sci-

entology". He tells of the Scientology academy at Fyfield in England. It seems an American couple undergoing auditing had a little boy whom the organization had labeled "suppressive".

His parents must have shown great strength of will in not abandoning or destroying the child. In the lunchroom the child would be made to eat off alone and away from the parents.

Kaufman said of him, on page 97 of "Inside Scientology". "He was the saddest little boy I ever saw, his pinched, bewildered features in complete contrast to those of his sunny little sister, who always sat with her parents". This treatment must have been hell on the child and I guarantee such parents will be hell on the rest of society.

In this submission to Scientology, the benefits to the preclear are secondary, if important at all. The main thing to Scientology seems to be to cut off from the preclear every influence which may offer him any alternative to their society or ideas. Actually, when they have totally cut him off from all appeals to reason he has only them and he belongs to them.

But isn't godhood worth it? What if you put aside, even for one whole life, all the things that keep you from advancing? What if you drop all those things, people and interests which came to you because of your negative impulses or were forced on you by bad circumstances? Could you possibly fail to improve in the long run?

In the case of Scientology you must examine the evidence. "Inside Scientology" tells of people who have advanced to Scientology's highest levels, paid thousands of dollars for auditing, dropped their families and friends and all contacts outside the organization.

Yet, many are still quarrelsome, vicious and hateful; human traits they should have dropped a long way back in their

program of super development. Bob Kaufman's most damning but simple indictment of these high level Scientologists is that after all their efforts, payments, self denial and alienation from the rest of humanity: "They are no different from anybody else". And now, even these most loyal are dropping out of Scientology in droves.

When I was around the Scientologists in Los Angeles I looked for signs of superiority in those who had advanced to the higher levels. I didn't see anyone worth imitating, much less envying.

They boast of the great psychic and social abilities their followers can develop. They also boast that they have many distinguished public figures in their ranks.

I only read of one such in a brochure of theirs. He was actor Steven Boyd who played opposite Charlton Heston in "Ben Hur". He also played Livius opposite Alec Guinness in the 1964 epic, "The Fall of the Roman Empire". I considered him a fine performer and waited for his super-stardom. I haven't seen him in anything since. Maybe they told him the entertainment industry was suppressive.

I have no regrets about any of my psychic adventures. They were all either beneficial or instructive. Their entertainment value alone has been worth the price.

Warnings against such investigations are often valid. This is true of one who so wants to believe that he will accept an idea and then reject all other evidence to the contrary. Believing is fun but it must be tempered with reason.

Many people are so empty that they must latch on to a belief, any belief, just to have something. Nothing can shake that belief, no matter how foolish, because that's all they have.

Some people will get into one such group as I have des-



Ya wanta get in the god game, Mac; it starts right here.

cribbed and lose everything and ruin their lives and perhaps even go insane. But these people have no one to blame but themselves. They are empty and unprepared. They rush in without first arming themselves with a basis of comparison.

There are a lot of con-artists in the god game and if you think you are going to get something for nothing you are

crazy to begin with. So if you are a natural born sucker it's a lot safer to buy a swamp.

There is a nonsense poem I have always enjoyed. I believe it fits the person seeking answers beyond the ordinary world of the five senses. It is "Jabberwocky" by Lewis Carroll. You can find it in "Through the Looking Glass."

JABBERWOCKY

'Twas brillig and the slithy toves
did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!"

He took his vorpal sword in hand:
Long time the manxome foe he sought—
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,
And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in uffish thought he stood,
The Jabberwock with eyes of flame,
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,
And burbled as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!
He left it dead, and with its head
He went galumping back.

"And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?
 Come to my arms, my beamish boy!
 O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!"
 He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
 Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
 All mimsy were the borogoves,
 And the mome raths outgrabe.

Following is an English Class essay I wrote on Jabberwocky in 1960.

JABBERWOCKY

LEWIS CARROLL

"Jabberwocky", considered a nonsense poem by many, is actually an account of an initiation into the realms of the psychic and occultism.

Its beginning describes the daydream stage, the Lotus Land of the meek and the timid. This land is merely a transient flash of color and sound to the overly careful realists. Ere they feel themselves slipping over the edge to face the Jabberwock they draw back into the encraving reality of the printed form and the time clock.

The middle stanzas tell of one who has not drawn back. He is properly warned by the Great Story Teller that there are dangers here. There is no middle ground in the world of the occult. One either masters his fantasies or is mastered. Few dare beyond the outer rim of occultism. Many who do venture forth are caught up in the maelstrom of the negative elementals of the inner mind. These are lost and huddle in mental institutions or visit mediums for messages from Aunt

Abigail.

But some do penetrate the inner reaches of the occult and conquer. Their confidence in their power over the metaphysical concepts they may face carries them over any visionary crisis.

So, armed with the vorpal sword (a broad knowledge of the occult and the confidence to use that knowledge) the initiate goes boldly into that realm of the psychic and the unknown. Meeting the jabberwock and the Bandersnatch (the demons of the spirit world and the ignorance of this one) he conquers. That is the mark of a beamish person indeed.



She says Elvis Presley will be a great spiritual leader: but what's an Elvis Presley?

4

BIBLE BANDITS

A BIBLE Bandit is one who uses the Bible to promote non-scriptural ideas. A Bible Bandit is also an unstable person who uses odd verses and phrases in the Bible to justify ideas and attitudes we consider vicious and ignorant today.

I am only concerned with the first type of Bible Bandit although I was brought up among the latter type.

The first type of Bible Bandit abounds in the world of occultism. If he were in many parts of Asia he could stay honest, since the occult is widely accepted there. But in a Judeo-Christian society he is as out of place as a Bible scholar in a herd of Jesus freaks.

The occult Bible Bandit promotes modern prophecy, astrology, spiritualism and reincarnation. He disregards the Bible writers' contempt and even hatred of such concepts and practices. Instead, he grasps at any scriptural straw to label his heresies "gospel".

I was brought up in the Church of Christ where I met many fine people and many silly ones. At the age of six I was

confronted with the threat that if I, a child, did not get right with God, then God would allow me to be tortured for ever and ever.

My father would occasionally maul me, usually with just cause. After the traditional screaming and yelling was over I was let alone and my atrocity was forgotten.

My elders in church often compared the heavenly father with the earthly one. The heavenly one was supposed to be infinitely loving. Yet he would permit me to be punished forever for disagreeing with a Bible story or for disobeying him. My own dad wasn't exactly loving but he would not have permitted me to suffer after a punishment was acknowledged. Their god just didn't ring true, somehow.

Yet this was my traditional religion so I stayed with it out of interest and because it was fun to debate church doctrine. Here I met my first Bible Bandits using the scriptures as threats against anyone so evil as to disagree with *them*.

I soon learned to counter every vicious threat with an equally absurd contradiction. I was once told it was bad to laugh and jeer at the account of Jesus cursing to death an innocent fig tree because it was unable to bear fruit out of season. (Mark 11:13-14, 20-21) I said that if Jesus did this he was a fool and a vandal, no matter what powers he had. I was threatened with hell-fire and damnation for not seeing the justice in it.

I answered with the account of the thief on the cross beside Jesus. That fellow got what was coming to him, by the laws of his time. He was not a Christian. He never put a nickel in the contribution. He never repented or was even baptized. (Luke 23:39-43) And when he was free and a thief, would Jesus' message have been more acceptable to him than me? Besides, if he knew anything at all about Jesus and his promises, a little last minute boot licking, it couldn't hurt.

So a child can be damned for unbelief while a dying thief

is saved. That is idiocy.

People who made such shabby use of their god as to use him as a booger man to frighten children were my first Bible Bandits. Far more interesting, however, were those I met later who used the Bible to win Christian converts to their unChristian beliefs.

The Bible was written by many different people with many different ideas of the Creator and what is right. Any agreement of one writer's idea of the Creator with that of a past writer was largely for convenience. As writer after writer put down his own views he agreed with former writers mainly to gain their followers.

It has always been so. Even in our time one group after another puts forth its pet theories under the heading of Christianity.

Since this book is mainly about prophecy I will deal with it first. Also, prophecy draws more heavily on Divine Authority than does astrology, spiritualism or reincarnation.

I have no quarrel with prophets who claim intuition or extra sensory perception. Even if a psychic says his talent comes from "God" and means the Universal Creative Force I have no argument.

But if he claims to be a strict adherant to a religion such as Judaism, Christianity or Islam, then his god is not a universal creative force. His god is a specific being and has a name, (Jehovah, Jesus, Allah) and a sex (He). This is a personal god as opposed to a Universal Creative Spirit.

Christians may disagree, saying that their god is universal. Yet their belief that non-Christians will not go to Heaven speaks for itself. (John 14:6)

Then, for a prophet to say "God told me", is to imply that Jehovah, Jesus, Allah, etc. knew that prophet and meaningfully imparted a message to him. If this were indeed the case there would be no margin for error. Nor would the message be given to him when he was not feeling well or under any circumstance where he would misinterpret it.

Would you give a friend an important message when he was drunk, half asleep, or otherwise distracted? Would not a superior entity be even more sure than you that the one given the message knew what was being told to him?

So for a modern prophet to say he is gifted by a personal god is arrogant, presumptuous and even blasphemous to the god he claims to represent. A claim of divine inspiration should be backed up by nothing less than a record of infallibility.

Each prophet should label every prophecy as either coming from his god, a prediction or simply a hunch. He should not put it on record unless he is sure of its source. Then in a few months, a year at most, the score should be tallied. If any prophecies by "God" prove false then the prophet should forever remain silent on future events.

In Old Testament times this silence was strictly enforced, by death. Deuteronomy 18:20-22 states: "20 But the Prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. 21 And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken? 22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him."

In case you are unfamiliar with Bible language I will try to make it plainer in light of the overall attitudes and practices

of that day.

In verse 20 Jehovah says, "If a prophet says something in my name which I didn't tell him to say, then you must kill him".

The questioner would naturally fear for his own life if he should try to kill a *true* prophet of Jehovah. So it is as if he asks in verse 21, "But how are we to know you didn't tell him to say what he said?"

Verse 22 gives the simple answer, "If what he prophesied in my name doesn't happen, then I didn't tell him to say it. So don't be afraid of him".

In Ezekiel 13:2-9, Jehovah demands of his followers that they actively oppose such prophets: "2 Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel that prophesy, and say thou unto them that prophesy out of their own hearts, Hear ye the word of the Lord; 3 Thus saith the Lord God; Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing! 4 O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts. 5 Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord. 6 They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The Lord saith: and the Lord hath not sent them: and they have made *others* to hope that they would confirm the word. 7 Have ye not seen a vain vision, and have ye not spoken a lying divination, whereas ye say, The Lord saith it: albeit I have not spoken? 8 Therefore thus saith the Lord God; Because ye have spoken vanity, and seen lies, therefore, behold, I *am* against you, saith the Lord God. 9 And mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that divine lies: they shall not be in the assembly of my people, neither shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, neither shall they enter into the land of Israel; and ye shall know that I *am* the Lord God."

If the Catholics launch another inquisition, Jeane Dixon

had better run for her life.

Next to prophecies which don't come true are prophecies which would have certainly been made had our prophets been divinely inspired. In the Jan. 14, 1973 *National Enquirer* are the *Enquirer's* pet prophets with their predictions for 1973. Jeane Dixon is not among them but her coverage of 1973 in the Jan. 28, 1973 edition of *Family Weekly* alone has earned her the terrible wrath of her god, Jehovah.

Nine out of the ten *Enquirer* prophets listed business as usual for 1973. Romance, frivolity, earthquakes, cancer cures, etc. made this year's predictions much like those of last year. Not one predicted Watergate, the fuel crisis or the food shortage (which promises famine) or Vice President Agnew's resignation or the war in the Middle East. (In the Nov. 11 issue of the *National Enquirer* there is a story, headlined on the front page, of how "Jeane Dixon Predicted Agnew Resignation". This headline probably sold a lot of copies to Dixon Devotees but I can't credit a prediction published after the event occurred.

That the *Enquirer* has a vested interest in Jeane and any accurate prophecies is obvious. But trying to make capitul out of a post-event prediction is a statement of their own resignation from the field of serious journalism.

According to their article, Jeane called *Enquirer* Executive Editor Iain Calder on Sept. 27 and insisted that Agnew would resign. If this is true, we will never know if she arrived at the prediction through divine inspiration or got it from one or more of the millions of Americans who expected Agnew to bow out any day regardless of his refusal to resign. Hardly a prediction needing psychic talent!

Again, if the story is true, she obviously wanted to get her prediction on record and certainly before it happened. But

why the *Enquirer*, published weekly instead of the *Washington Post*, which is a daily? A prediction that might come true any day lacks weight in a weekly publication and especially one which is not on sale until weeks after its stories have been set in type.

The article continues that Jeane wanted the story held up until she had the name of Agnew's successor. She couldn't get the name as of Oct. 11, the day after Agnew's resignation, but she said the chosen one would be great with Congress and in international affairs.

Again, hardly more than a shot in the dark. Even a quick reading of her paper boy's bubble gum cards would have told her that President Nixon would choose any one of many who fit this description.

Probably the *Enquirer* went to press on Oct. 12, since Gerald Ford's nomination was announced on Oct. 13. We can only imagine Jeane's frustration in so narrowly missing the opportunity to predict that we have a Ford in our future.

British astrologer Peter Clark predicted tighter price controls in the U. S. and a serious trade war for Nixon. He was not at all specific in these predictions and his other predictions were of little value if at all accurate.

Jeane Dixon, however, masterfully predicted just the opposite of what we see today. This not only proves her to be completely burned out as a seeress but Jews and Christians might see her as working for the opponents of Jehovah.

Repeating her 1973 predictions in *Family Weekly*: "The economy of our nation will continue to improve. — Our government will make wonderful strides in economic affairs, which will benefit all."

When things are rotten and getting worse, predicting business as usual is not only not prophecy but is a disservice to people who believe and might otherwise prepare. This is bad. And to predict good times when things turn out to be just

the opposite is not simply a mistake, it is actually evil. If people don't know what is to happen they should shut up.

If you had a lot of stocks, when things looked bad you would probably sell. But what if your stock broker told you he had inside information that your stock would rise? When you were wiped out, wouldn't you suspect him of working against you?

The Bible has quite a tirade and threats against such prophets. I refer you to Jeremiah 14:12-16. "12 When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and an oblation, I will not accept them: but I will consume them by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence. 13 Then said I. Ah, Lord God! *behold, the prophets say unto them, Ye shall not see the sword, neither shall ye have famine, but I will give you assured peace in this place.* 14 Then the Lord said unto me, *The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.* 15 Therefore thus saith the Lord concerning the prophets that prophesy in my name, and I sent them not, yet they say, *Sword and famine shall not be in this land; By sword and famine shall these prophets be consumed.* 16 And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; and they shall have none to bury them, their wives, nor their sons, nor their daughters: for I will pour their wickedness upon them." (italics mine)

The most maddening thing about many Bible Bandits is their insulting attitude toward the intelligence of those who want to believe in them. The worst offender I have found in this line is Jess Stearn, author of "The Door to the Future"

and "Adventures Into the Psychic".

He has a long and admirable list of credits as a working reporter but when he deals with the Bible he writes like a cub aspiring to be a hack. He obviously has no respect for the Bible as a great book.

An author who expects his works to be read by millions has no excuse for misquoting the Bible. To avoid mistakes one should use either Young's or Strong's concordance, The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible and two or more popular versions of the Bible.

All these can be found in most public libraries and certainly at any religious book store. So they are easily available, especially to any professional person.

Failure to use such aids leads to loss of credibility in the author's work. After all, if Stern is untruthful about things I can easily check, why should I believe his accounts of things which I cannot check?

On page 75 of "Adventures Into the Psychic" Stern writes, "...and is there not a Book of Prophets in the Bible...?" No Jess, there is not a Book of Prophets in the Bible. One has only to open a Bible and look in the Table of Contents to see that. There is a Book of Judges and two Books of Kings but no "Book of Prophets".

On page 19 he writes, "...as the Good Book says, that coming events cast their shadow before them". On page 24 of "The Door to the Future", he quotes Jeane Dixon as saying, "The Bible says that all events are foreshadowed".

The Bible does not say that coming events cast their shadows before them or are foreshadowed. In fact, this principle is contrary to the Biblical treatment of prophecy. Coming events were told by Jehovah to favored prophets.

Obviously, Jess Stern was heavily influenced in Biblical misquoting by the frauds he interviewed. This is still no excuse for not checking the statements himself.

Professional Bible Bandits will even quote Shakespeare and say it is from the Bible if it will convince one more ignorant sucker. That's how they have to work it if they want to make money in the god game but have no brains or ability. It also shows their contempt for those who believe in them.

Stern even makes Nostradamus out to be a Bible Bandit. On page 189 of "The Door to the Future" he quotes Nostradamus as saying about prophets, "Thou hast hidden these things from the wise and prudent and hast revealed them to the small and weak."

This is a paraphrase of Matt. 11:25 and Luke 10:21. It does not describe people prophesying future events but instead, indicate those who accepted Jesus. Here, Jesus is exulting that the wise and prudent, who constantly mocked him, were blind to his message but it was instead revealed to babes. In Luke 10:17-21 it refers to the seventy simple folk Jesus commissioned to go out and preach that "The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you." (Luke 10:9)

In my criticism of Bible Bandits I don't mean to nit-pick. It is true that many Bible verses are vague and one man's interpretation is as good as that of another. But most verses, in context, mean just what they say. So whether one believes in the Bible or not, one must honor it for having a message of its own. A person who makes a verse mean anything he wants it to mean might just as well preach from the telephone directory.

Next we come to astrology and here the Bible Bandits really shine. On page 225 of "Adventures Into the Psychic" Stern writes, "...pinpointed the John F. Kennedy assassination with a fastidiousness that revived the Biblical concept that the stars ordain".

There is no Biblical concept that the stars ordain. Every

Old Testament reference to astrology is derogatory. Isaiah's derisive challenge to the astrologers should show his contempt for them and for any who might use them to foretell the future. He says in Isaiah 47:11-15, "11 Therefore shall evil come upon thee; *thou shalt not know from whence it riseth*: and mischief shall fall upon thee; thou shalt not be able to put it off: *and desolation shall come upon thee suddenly, which thou shalt not know* 12 Stand now with thine enchantments, and with the multitude of thy sorceries, wherein thou hast laboured from thy youth; if so be thou shalt be able to profit, if so be thou mayest prevail. 13 Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. *Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee* 14 Behold, they shall be as stubble: the fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame: there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it. 15 Thus shall they be unto thee with whom thou hast laboured, even thy merchants, from thy youth: they shall wander every one to his quarter: none shall save thee." (italics mine)

On page 115 of "The Door to the Future" Stern credits modern astrologers with finding over 200 references to astrology in the Bible. He especially cites Psalms 8:3-4 as the modern astrologer's Biblical sanction.

"3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained: 4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?"

This is the passage from which the astrologers made their corruption, "The stars ordain." You can see, however, that verse three says "the moon and the stars which *thou* (Jehovah) has ordained" and is not an indication that the moon and the stars, themselves, ordain anything. So this is

no reference to astrology at all. It is simply a worshipful comparison of the magnitude of the heavens and stars to the relative insignificance of man.

Nor do any of the other mentions of heavenly bodies in the Old Testament refer to astrology or to the predicting of future human events. Even so, Stern goes on to quote Genesis 1:14 "And God said, let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:" (italics mine)

The heavens were the clock and calendar of those days. That's all the reference indicates; nothing more.

Job 38:31 says, "Canst thou bind the *sweet influences* of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?" (italics mine) This is supposed to be a real clincher for astrology.

If the Greek translator of the Hebrew text got his names right he meant the Pleiades, a cluster of seven stars, particularly bright and pretty on a moonless night. On such a night I am greatly influenced by the heavens and especially thrilled by the brighter stars that hold my eye. I am influenced aesthetically. The whole chapter is poetry and might not the Pleiades have had a poetic influence on a Hebrew serenading his love?

Perhaps the writer meant the Pleiades in a certain place heralded the best time to plant barley. Or as a means of navigation they might have been the best beacon for finding the way home.

Do the astrologers believe that the term *sweet influences* can have only one meaning; theirs? And since the Hebrews were so hostile to astrologers I should choose any meaning to that verse over one favoring astrology.

The hostility to astrologers is further elaborated on in the Book of Daniel. Even Nebuchadnezzar found Daniel and his friends ten times better than his court astrologers. Dan. 1:

19-20. Read the following verses for yourself and as you go along you will probably conclude, as do I, that the writers of the Bible had little, if any, respect for astrologers.

Dan. 1:19-20, 2:3, 10, 27, 4:7, 5:7-8, 11, 15. It is true that the astrologers were asked to interpret the king's dream and the handwriting on the wall. These were not their specialties but by computing the king's birthdate, the date of the dream and of the writing, they should have been able to come up with a future highlight in the king's horoscope which would shed light on both the dream and the writing.

Stern carries the Bible sanction of astrology over to the New Testament on page 80 of "Adventures Into the Psychic." Here he writes, "Does not the Bible say the stars ordain and 'thy days are numbered like the hairs on thy head'?"

Again, the Bible does not say the stars ordain. Also, there is no such phrase in the Bible as "thy days are numbered." The real verse is in Matthew 10:29-31 and Luke 12:6-7. In Matthew it says, "29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. 30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows."

Again, this is no reference to astrology. It is simply an expression of Jehovah's knowledge of his creation and the relative importance of man in that creation.

On page 225 of "Adventures Into the Psychic", Stern shows elation on behalf of astrologers with a recent version of the New Testament which describes the wise men as astrologers.

The story of the wise men, although a great motif for Christmas cards, is not consistent with Christian doctrine. In

fact, it is one of the shakiest tales in the Bible.

There is no basis for a belief that the wise men were Jews. And if they were not Jews there would be little reason for their coming all that way to worship *the King of the Jews*. (Matt. 2:1-2)

Furthermore, a real star serves as a fixed directional beacon for navigators but would not have "went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was." (Matt. 2:9) A flying saucer, maybe, but a star, never.

The writer was probably a Hellenized Jewish Christian who wrote after the crucifixion. He most likely expected Jesus to come back in his lifetime and to become the actual, legal and divine, universally accepted, literal King of the Jews. It didn't happen. So if the wise men were astrologers, they were wrong.

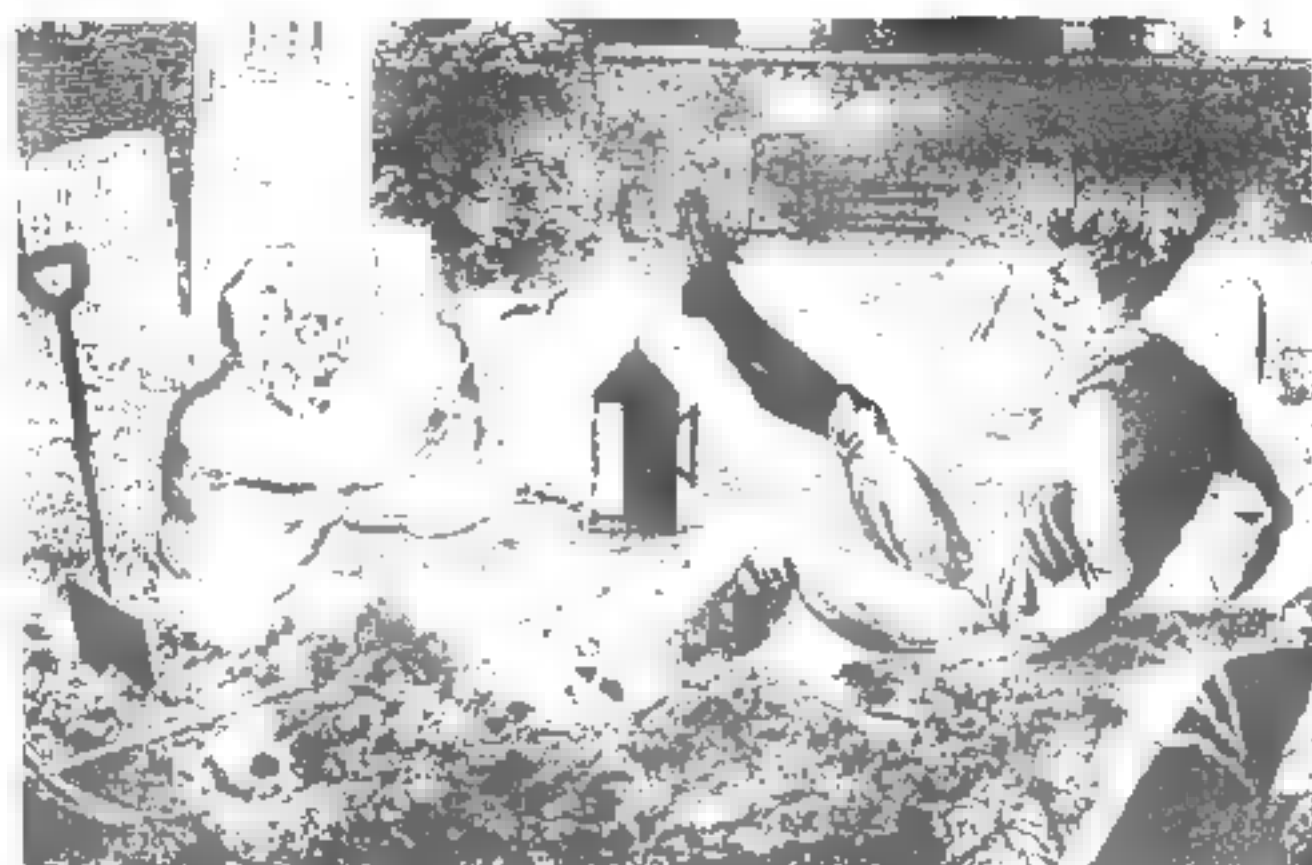
Jesus was not accepted as King of the Jews then and he is not accepted by the Jews as their king today. I am sure that the wise men would not knowingly have made the trip in expectation of an event which would not occur before the next 1900 years, if ever.

In spiritualism, also, Bible Bandits make a poor showing in proving Bible sanction. The worst offenders scripturally are the spiritualist churches.

They begin their services with a song, a prayer and the passing of the plate. Then, after a short inspirational talk sprinkled with irrelevant Bible quotes, and misquotes, the medium goes into the old act.

The one whose church I attended most was the late Rev. Mae Taylor. She was about the sweetest old lady I have ever met. She was very kind to me and so sincere I seldom challenged the moronic spirits who came through her to me lest I hurt her feelings.

Most of her congregation were old and lonely people. She would tell them she saw a golden globe going toward them or



I don't care what that medium told you, I didn't take it with me.

a golden key. She would tell them that their dead husbands or wives were watching over them and would visit at night and kiss their eyes. This undoubtedly gave a great deal of comfort to so many who had absolutely nothing else going for them so I found no fault in her.

Most such churches are very comfortable and non-controversial. They have their own congregations and have learned to live with scriptural inconsistencies.

The majority of legitimate trance mediums, trumpet mediums and those who produce materializations and other phenomena seldom try to pass for Christians. The real Bible Bandits among spiritualists, however, are those phonies out to snare rich Christian clients. They bring forth Jesus, Moses and saints for all seasons.

Their pet defence is the First Epistle of John 4:1-6.

"1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God:

Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of god: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already it is in the world. 5 They are of the world; therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth us: he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error."

This is very convincing to some bereaved person who yearns for contact with a departed loved one. Of course, if a client *does* challenge a spirit to see if it is of God, he is hooked. Those spirits can and will quote scripture like you wouldn't believe. They will lie and carry on and rattle off verse after verse, making most of it up as they go along.

If the writer of the First Epistle of John had known anything about the kind of spirits that come through mediums he would have known that this was no test at all. So he obviously meant an entirely different kind of spirit. The quote, the preceeding third chapter and the rest of the fourth makes no mention of familiar spirits, mediums or any kind of contact with the dead. This makes it even less likely that the writer meant *spiritualist's* spirits.

Then in verse six he says, "Hereby know we the spirit of truth and the spirit of error." Such spirits are purely figurative so we face the same question we had concerning the sweet influences of Pleiades. What kind of *influences*? What kind of *spirits*?

The First Epistle of John does not give approval to spiritualism. I can't even find a recognition of the phenomenon in the entire New Testament.

The Old Testament, however, is completely hostile to mediums, familiar spirits, etc. Leviticus 19:31 leaves no room for argument. "Regard not them that hath familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I *am* the

Lord your God."

This is reinforced by chapter 20, verse 6 which says, "And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people."

And death to the medium in the same chapter: "27 A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood *shall be upon them*."

Deuteronomy 18:10-14 catalogued Jehovah's competition and stressed that he would simply not put up with those who followed such practices. "10 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire (human sacrifice), or an observer of times (astrologer), or an enchanter, or a witch, 11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. 12 For all that do these things *are* an abomination unto the Lord: and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out before thee. 13 Thou shalt be perfect with the Lord thy God. 14 For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the Lord thy God hath not suffered thee to do so."

Lest anyone wants to nit-pick that a familiar spirit is only a spirit inhabiting a witch's cat instead of being a Medium's assistant in the spirit world, I give you First Samuel 28:3-20. The account is so direct and interesting I have quoted it all.

"3 Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land. 4 And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa. 5 And when

Saul enquired of the Lord, the Lord answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets. 7 Then said Saul unto his servants. Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said unto him. Behold, *there is* a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor. 8 And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me *him* up, whom I shall name unto thee. 9 And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die? 10 And Saul swore to her by the Lord, saying, As the Lord liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing. 11 Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel. 12 And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul. 13 And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth. 14 And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up: and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it *was* Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself. 15 And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? and Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams; therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. 16 Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the Lord is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy? 17 And the Lord hath done to him,

as he spake by me: for the Lord hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbor, even to David: 18 Because thou obeydest not the voice of the Lord, nor executedest his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the Lord done this thing unto thee this day. 19 Moreover the Lord will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and tomorrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the Lord also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines. 20 Then Saul fell straightway all along the earth, and was sore afraid, because of the words of Samuel: and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night."

The writer of First Chronicles attributed Saul's defeat partly to his visit to a medium. 1 Chron. 10:13-14 says, "13 So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the Lord, even against the word of the Lord, which he kept not, and also for asking council of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it; 14 And enquired not of the Lord: therefore he slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse."

Of course, that writer evidently had a different account of Saul's visit to the medium, since Saul, in 1 Sam 28:6, *did* enquire of the Lord but got no answer.

Josiah, the fifteenth king of Judah, also disposed of the "workers with familiar spirits" as soon as he took over. (2 Kings 23:24)

Isaiah the prophet indicates that the only link between the living and the dead should be Jehovah. Isaiah 8:19 says, "And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?"

An important non-Christian belief taught by many in the psychic set is the doctrine of reincarnation. Jeane Dixon has written a book called "Reincarnation Prayers to Live By." In her interview by Helen Bentley, Jeane implied that Jack Warner means to do a movie on it. This should be the most spiritually uplifting film since the production of "Portnoy's Complaint."

Many astrologers and spiritualists also teach reincarnation. This can be quite humorous among spiritualists. The same medium who will teach rebirth will bring forth Lincoln, Washington or even Cleopatra, all of whom would have been reborn by this time.

Many Eastern religions teach that a living organism is composed of a unit of conscious energy (soul, spirit) and a body. When the body dies the unit of conscious energy transfers to a brand new body. This is reincarnation.

Most Western religions teach that when the body dies the unit of conscious energy goes either to a place of eternal punishment or of bliss. Instead of torment, some Western religions describe a purgatory, or place of purification, where the unit of conscious energy is prepared for the place or condition of eternal bliss.

Reincarnationist Bible Bandits always back up their link of reincarnation with Christianity by quoting Malachi 4:5-6. Here Jehovah says, "5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: 6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."

Reincarnationists point out that Elijah was dead when those lines were written. He would then have to be physically reborn in order to carry out another mission.

The 17th chapter of Matthew describes Jesus' transfiguration on the mountain where his disciples saw him speaking to Moses and Elias (New Testament spelling of Elijah). In verses 10-13 Jesus explains that John the Baptist had at one time been Elijah the prophet and had returned as promised in Malachi 4:5-6.

Matt. 17:10-13 says, "10 And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? 11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. 12 But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. 13 Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist."

Further on, in John 9:1-3 it is plainly demonstrated that Jesus' disciples believed in reincarnation. John 9: "1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

For the disciples to ask Jesus if sinning had caused the man to be born blind proves they believed in reincarnation. For how could he have sinned before birth if he had not lived before?

Jesus could not help but know they believed this and yet he did not say the belief was wrong. Instead, he explained in verse 3 that the man was born blind so that the works of God should be made manifest in him. In other words, the man was born blind so that Jesus could prove his powers by healing him.

This, in itself, puts the Christians in another dilemma. With so many naturally blind people around, would the Creator have blinded a baby just so Jesus could have come

along years later and shown off his powers?

Here is an admittedly innocent child, purposely doomed to years of misery as a blind person and a beggar (verse 8) and in verse 7. The senseless cruelty of it far outweighs any goodness demonstrated in the healing.

If these verses dealing with reincarnation were properly translated from the originals then it is obvious that Jesus and his disciples *did* believe in reincarnation. Yet believing a thing and teaching it are quite different.

The urgency of Jesus' mission no doubt caused him to threaten, with permanent, burning hell, all those who did not accept him as the Christ. Those who believed in reincarnation would not have been moved to drop everything and rush to get in under the wire before "the great and dreadful day of the Lord" came.

So Christianity teaches contrary to the doctrine of reincarnation. In Hebrews 9:27 Paul wrote, "And it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:...."

Jesus did indeed teach a burning hell. Matthew 5:22 says, "....but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire." In verses 29 and 30 Jesus continues with the idea that not only does the soul not leave the body for a better existence but that the body will be cast into hell along with the soul. For who would care if his body were burned if he had left it? See also Matt. 18:9 where Jesus implies that the body will go to heaven and if a person has one blind eye here he will also have one blind eye there.

If you still doubt he was teaching a literal burning hell read Mark 9:43-48.

Matthew 10:28 tacks his non-separation teaching down. "28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

In Luke 16:19-26 Jesus illustrates hell in a parable. Here

the flames burn (24) and the sentence is permanent (26). So hell, as Jesus taught it, was not a state of mind. It was both physical and mental and it hurt and it was forever.

So neither Judaism nor Christianity sanctions belief in modern prophets, astrology, spiritualism or reincarnation. If you are still comforted by those who can sometimes see bits of the future, including the pregnancies of socialites, then go ahead and revere them. If astrology gives you your answers, fine. If you want to be a spiritualist, be one; if a reincarnationist, very well.

But these schools of thought are not sanctioned by Christian doctrines. If Christianity has any merit you only pollute it by adding to it ideas its authors didn't consider worthy of elaboration. It is silly to back up your own beliefs with three of four verses that have to be interpreted and nitpicked over.

If your philosophy can't stand on its own merits then abandon it. Otherwise, you only weaken your own philosophy and also the religion you cannibalize to back it up.



You girls and your witch's brew with a vodka chaser!

5

JEANE DIXON

WHILE researching this book I was talking with Bonnie Benzonelli Gool, owner of The Humboldt House, an antique store at 108 F Street in Eureka. A man was pawing over the goodies and half listening. Bonnie told him the subject was Jeane Dixon.

He seemed to snap to attention and replied, "Jeane Dixon? Hey, she's great, ain't she!"

Just the name, Jeane Dixon, fills people with awe. She has a reputation which anyone would envy. On researching her, however, I find that this reputation is largely undeserved.

Moreover, its perpetuation is a disservice to more honest and reliable people like Dr. Paul Ehrlich, author of "The Population Bomb" and William and Paul Paddock, authors of "Famine 1975." Many like them might get through to the people with worthwhile predictions if people like Jeane would only shut up.

But she will not get out of the limelight. She hangs in there, giving her devotees one prediction after another. If she is only partly right her publicists give her headlines. If she is dead wrong they cover it up.

She has even come to be credited with predictions she

never made. Soon she won't even need to open her mouth at all to stay on top. If she dies, she might, like spiritualist Arthur Ford, seem to go on giving predictions from the next world.

On another occasion I dropped an unfavorable comment about Jeane Dixon. A girl present said, "But Jeane Dixon predicted Nixon would get real sick at just this time."

I said, "Well, where did you see that?"

She answered, "In the *Enquirer* and it said in July at this time."

I went home and checked the *Enquirer's* 1973 predictions. Sure enough, in the Jan. 1973 issue, was a prediction about Nixon. It said that Nixon's position and his life would be seriously threatened. The most dangerous time would be in the early part of July when special precautions to safeguard him must be taken. The prediction went on, "This applies especially to air travel."

What actually happened was that President Nixon contracted viral pneumonia on July 12. To a healthy sixty-year-old man this normally amounts to a bad cold. Aggravated by tension and nervous upset, viral pneumonia is like a case of flu.

It is understandable that Nixon's troubles with Watergate would aggravate his condition. And as the president of the United States, any respiratory ailment would be regarded as dangerous. To take any such condition for granted would be stupid.

So it is agreed that Nixon's life was seriously threatened in the early part of July. What then? The prediction ended, "This applies especially to air travel."

Now, if the President had heeded the prediction he would have stayed on the ground during July. So what? The danger wasn't from an air accident but from a virus.

But the clincher to the prediction is that Jeane Dixon didn't even make it. She has so much undeserved fame as a prophetess that any accurate prediction one remembers will be credited to her.

Actually, Eve Petulengro, a British astrologer, made the prediction. I wasn't even going to include her in my book because her predictions are mostly for show-biz people and jet-set trash. I don't keep up with predictions about them.

I couldn't care less if Liz Taylor was to be a victim of a large scale robbery around May 13 (which she wasn't). Nor would I be bothered if Ari Onassis' shipping empire encountered major setbacks during the first part of 1973 (which it didn't).

No Hum also to her prediction that in 1973 Sophia Loren (another sacred cow) would have a terrible film flop and would not live it down for some time. I didn't know Sophia had lived down *any* of her films.

Eva's next prediction was that Alfred Hitchcock would suffer a physical ailment which would halt his film career. I hope not but it hasn't happened as of this writing. Her last, and quite vague, prediction was a tragedy in a major American family, causing mourning throughout the country. No such national mourning occurred.

Jeane Dixon got her inspiration to prophecy from an old Gypsy fortune teller. When the Gypsy examined Jean's hands she said, according to Ruth Montgomery, "This little girl is going to be very famous. She will be able to see world-wide changes, because she is blessed with the gift for prophecy. Never have I seen such palm lines!" Then she gave her a crystal ball.

It so happens that the Gypsy fortune teller was Madam Esther Pierce, the great-aunt of Bonnie Benzonelli Gool. She

passed on in the late 1920's, soon after she read for Jeane Dixon.

Madam Pierce had correspondence with people all over the world. Clients would write and ask her advice and several were people of importance, although none famous to history that Bonnie knows of.

She was a real Gypsy and died quite old. She lived across the street from Luther Burbank's property in Santa Rosa, California. She owned her own home, a nice little white frame house and lived in it, not in the caravan Jeane described, although Jeane's innocent childhood romanticism is understandable.

The only time she lived in the caravan was when she was on the road. When the good weather came she would go up and down the Redwood Country and into Oregon and Washington, telling fortunes along the way. When bad weather set in she would go back to Santa Rosa.

She was great at making predictions. People who knew her swore by her knowledge. A perfect stranger could go in and talk to her and she would sit there without even taking out her cards or looking at their hands or a crystal ball. Yet she could tell them things about their past that would always throw them. She was definitely telepathic.

She wouldn't have taken much notice of little Jeane Dixon, other than recognizing a budding telepath. She was always good with children and liked to give them a show and make them feel big.

Concerning the crystal ball episode, Bonnie said, "She gave a crystal ball to practically every little girl who came in there. She bought them by the gross.

"She was a good businesswoman; let's put it like that. She gave out crystal balls like merchants used to give out Christmas plates and souvenirs and things like that."

This flattered the mothers and they would generously



Madam Ester Pierce, the Gypsy Jeane Dixon claims discovered her.



Madam Pierce in front of the house she lived in.



Madam Pierce reading the palm of Bonnie's aunt.



Madam Pierce's caravan horse.



Madam Pierce with her dog.



Madam Pierce in her youth reading a client's palm at right.

cross her palm. She always told the kids nice things.

On the night Bonnie was born Madam Pierce predicted that she was going to rule two continents with her voice. She also predicted that Bonnie would die by drowning before she was forty. Bonnie has just passed fifty and still can't sing.

She did predict Bonnie's father's death and also her own. "When she moved from Santa Rosa she came to Healdsburg and lived just around the corner from us to be close to the family. She said she hadn't long to live.

"It was also strange that as she was dying she was with us and there was no notice sent out and no calls went to anybody. But within three days the yard was full of Gypsies who came from all over the country to pay their last respects.

She gave instructions that her caravan was to be burned. There is little likelihood that she was a Christian. Bonnie doesn't think she was.

Madam Pierce never gave a child a bad reading and seldom disappointed an adult. Her favorite prediction for little girls was that they would be able to see into the future. If those predictions had been based on psychic revelation instead of being simply professional flattery, there would be hundreds of women like Jeane claiming Madam Pierce as their mentor. Jeane Dixon was simply more impressionable than the rest.

Or maybe she just had more drive. If Madam Pierce had told Jeane she would rule two continents with her voice she might have become the Maria Callas of Pershing Square.

One ability Jeane apparently had, and which might have been noted by Madam Pierce, was telepathy. This is usually the springboard to prophecy. If one reads in another's mind a plan and that plan is completed, then the telepath can claim

to have seen the completed act as a prophecy.

For instance, if you are wanting to buy a house a telepath might tell you you *will* move into a new house, describing the kind of house you have in mind. If you have not told him of your plans you are amazed.

Furthermore, his "prediction" makes you even more confident of succeeding in your plans. You might even unconsciously be more on the lookout for the kind of house he described than the one you might have bought. So if you spot a house which reminds you of his description you snap it up. Then he is a prophet by reputation, without being a prophet at all.

Most of Jeane Dixon's prophecies for private clients read to me like her telepathic reception of hoped for gains. When such clients are assured that their hopes are a future reality they don't destroy their chances by anxieties and a lack of confidence. Total assurance of success will help most any plan to succeed.

Telepathic "prophecy" works just as well on a client who expects the worst from, say, a wild niece. If said wild niece spent last night in jail after a pot party the client will probably reflect worry about her and her future.

The telepath can then say, "You have a niece who is in danger. If she is not watched carefully she won't be with you long." These are your own worst fears. When your niece turns up a few weeks later, dead from a drug overdose, you go around praising the telepath as a true prophet.

Jeane claims to be a telepath and I don't doubt that she is one. But telepathy is not prophecy. To accept the results of telepathy as prophecy is to further discredit the real phenomenon of actually seeing into the future.

I'm sure Jeane has used telepathy for most of her right predictions. But it isn't enough for her to claim telepathic powers. Her ego seems so starved that when she does hit the

mark she boosts her image as one being an actual link between her "God" in Heaven and all the rest of us common trash here on Earth.

However, her arrogance in claiming such intimacy with the Christian gods, coupled with her errors, destroys her credibility.

I have no obligation to dwell on her accurate predictions. Her accuracy, as does yours or mine, speaks for itself. However, if one claims divine inspiration, one is not allowed inaccuracies, vagaries or downright lying. Also, to hold that the Creator would use such flawed and confused instruments to demonstrate the Presence is not only presumptuous but blasphemous.

In *Ladies Home Journal*, Nov. 1965, Bill Davidson quotes Jeane as saying, "The Holy Mother comes to me. God comes to me. He talks to me." Another quote from the same article, "My gift is from God and if I commercialize it he will take the gift away."

In that article she was credited with 60% accuracy. Now she is credited with 80%. But in light of her claims of divine contacts, less than 100% accuracy amounts to fraud. For, why should she settle for anything from a source which might be in error when she is so close to the source of all truth?

Yet, in that article, she is said to have predicted World War Three in 1958 over Red China's attempt to take Quemoy and Matsu. It also told of her prediction that Nixon would defeat John F. Kennedy in 1960. In a *Harper's* August, 1967 article she predicted a cure for cancer in that year.

On page 111 of "A Gift of Prophecy" she predicted that the Russians would be first on the moon.

Another claim made by Jeane is that she doesn't commercialize her talents. This is simply not true. She could not help but be wealthy from royalties on her book, "My Life and

Prophecies" and her interest in Ruth Montgomery's "A Gift of Prophecy." Her yearly predictions are also syndicated and she writes a column, "Your Horoscope" in *Rising Sign: The Astrology Newspaper*. She also lectures and is a guest on TV talk shows across the country. I consider her income from these enterprises legitimate, but it was she who made the claim of not commercializing on her "gift."

Then there is the real estate business she helps her husband with. In a July 1973 interview on the Helen Bentley Show in San Francisco, Miss Bentley asked Jeane, "Do people let you talk about real estate when they want to know what you have to say about them personally?"

Jeane answered, "I will not, I do not mix the two at all. They're one and apart. Church is church and this office is a business office."

Truly, I can't see her giving psychic readings in her real estate office. But wouldn't her presence make a potential customer choose her husband's agency?

After all, she couldn't afford to sell him a swamp. Real estate being a gamble for both the agent and the client, wouldn't a famous psychic minding the store better the odds for both parties?

If you wanted property would you go to John Doe, who might indeed sell you a swamp, or to Jeane Dixon, whom you would expect to handle only the luckiest properties? After all, John Doe has only the average real estate agent's reputation to maintain. Jeane, however, would be expected to have the inside track on good deals in property, promising far less margin for gamble than does her mundane counterpart, John Doe.

If she were representing the U. S. Government instead of "God," her husband's real estate agency might be termed a conflict of interests. Now admit it; wouldn't you feel safer buying land from Senator Sam Ervin than from that crummy

little John Doe?

This present topic, on my part, might seem biased and unfair. But again, Jeane made the non-commercializing claim and yet we are supposed to believe she does not use her name and reputation to promote her husband's business. A simple remedy would be for her to hire another real estate agent to take her place in the office.

Past performances mold opinions on present acts. A past performance of Jeane's is recorded on pages 19 and 31 of Jess Stern's "The Door to the Future."

Here, Jeane mentally saw a raffle ticket number for a Cadillac. She then deliberately pawed over the raffle ticket books until the right one was found. She bought the ticket for her husband and he got the Cadillac. The event was a war time benefit at Fort Meyer, Virginia.

Now the buyers of the rest of the tickets were probably patriotic. Yet we must assume that every buyer really wanted to win that Cadillac. How many of those tickets do you think would have been sold if it were known that Jeane Dixon had already, knowingly, bought the winning ticket?

We can only speculate how she knew the winning number. Possibly the manager of the raffle had already decided on what number to pick and Jeane read his mind. Or maybe she did have a real glimpse into the future. But it doesn't really matter and I will go along with the story that she got the number through her psychic powers.

But her act is proof that the possession of psychic powers is not an indication of honesty or goodness. And can Jeane deny that she was guilty of cheating and material profit through the use of "God's gift?" How else can one interpret it?

On pages 74 and 75 of Stern's book "Adventures Into the Psychic" he describes a female psychic who started out well and had a "true gift." She prided herself on not taking

money for readings. Nonetheless, she took in a fortune from commercial enterprises made successful by the publicity she constantly encouraged. She put out a stream of predictions which kept her in the public eye. In time she was psychically burned out and was so often wrong that she discredited herself and her fellow psychics.

Sound like anyone we know?

Actually, Stern wasn't writing about Jeane Dixon but the description fits her pretty well. On page 24 of "The Door to the Future" he quotes her as saying, "The difference between extrasensory perception and spiritual prophecy is materialism; and the more material you are the less clearly you see."

I credit her with having some extrasensory perception but no spiritual gift at all. Her accuracy is failing with every claim of "God's" revelation.

She now seems to have become desperate over the Watergate affair. Her reputation demands that she be abreast of all the big news stories. A famous psychic such as she cannot afford to have missed foreseeing something as big as Watergate. Her efforts to backtrack and claim credit for having predicted Watergate are becoming a pathetic exercise in futility.

When Watergate began to break big, one TV anchorman looked up from reading his notes on the latest developments. As I remember, although I am not sure, it was Harry Reasoner of ABC. He said, and I paraphrase, "In 1968 Jean Dixon predicted that President Nixon would be involved in a wiretap scandal but would come out of it all right."

Rising Sign: The Astrology Newspaper, Aug. 23 through Sept. 22, 1973, quoted Jeane's syndicated prediction on Oct. 20, 1968. "A wiretapping scandal which I have predicted previously is yet to come. It will involve Richard Nixon, but will show him as a sincere man and will help his public image—The entire matter will affect Mr. Nixon favorably and would seem to put him in a position to right a great wrong,

which would be for the good of the image of the United States." (italics mine)

It is obvious by now that Nixon will never live down Watergate, as far as his political career is concerned. His hedging and his refusal to hand over the tapes has caused the majority of Americans to doubt his sincerity. Whatever she saw, her prediction that it would be a credit to Nixon was dead wrong.

Also, such a prediction would have been quite easy, since wiretap scandals have been popping up for years and Nixon was bound to be involved in one sooner or later.

Furthermore, for a prediction to carry any weight as a prophecy it must not only be specific about the person involved but must indicate the importance of the event.

For instance, a prophet might say a person would be in a boating accident but would come out of it all right. Now, if this person were to be out fishing on a lake and his boat turned over and he was able to swim safely to shore this would be a proper prediction. But if the person were, instead, a survivor of the sinking of the Titanic, the prediction would have been so pitifully inadequate as to be nonsense.

Furthermore, what if the prediction was that the person would be in a boating accident and come out all right, but he drowned. This would invalidate the prediction.

In her Helen Bentley interview Jeane said, "This prediction about the wiretapping, I picked up the man-made plans right after the murder of the Diem regime (Nov. 2, 1963) in Viet Nam. And may I warn too; and I wrote a letter to the President then; I said, "Please, let's listen to General De Gaulle. Let's not send men into Viet Nam, help him with money.

(Him who? De Gaulle? The French were out of Viet Nam by then) If we do we'll fall into the trap that has been so cleverly contrived for us in the Far East by our opposing forces. And this Watergate is another trap, and a big one."

Helen Bentley then said, "We'll go on to another question." I didn't blame her. Helen is a kind soul.

Now, Jeane's statement was that she had picked up man-made plans to wiretap the Democratic campaign headquarters. In saying she *picked up the man-made plans* for the bugging, she eliminated prophecy or seeing the thing as an accomplished event.

So the only way we can give her claim any validity is to believe that there were actually plans afoot to bug the Democrats two election campaigns ahead! It is to laugh. The thing was done so badly that all the participants committed political suicide and several were jailed. It could not have been planned more than a few weeks before, much less eight years!

Maybe the man-made plans she picked up were from Nixon, himself. In 1956, Nixon's brother, Donald, received a \$205,000 loan from Howard Hughes. There was a report that the President had the Secret Service tap Donald's phone for about a year, sometime after he became president in 1968.

It could be that in 1963 Nixon planned to bug *his brother's* phones as soon in the future as he could arrange it, in order to make sure Donald's big financial deals were legitimate. That might have been the bugging plans Jeane picked up at that early date. It seems more reasonable to believe this than that political bugging plans were entertained eight years before the plans were to be put into effect.

Jeane simply did not predict Watergate. Fears of failure in this might then have prompted her to credit the prediction to the Bible. The July 31, 1973 Hollywood Squares TV show mentioned this in one of their questions. It was claimed that

Jeane Dixon said that Watergate was predicted in the Bible in the eighth chapter of Nehemiah.

This book of the Bible recounts the return of the Jews from captivity and their project of reestablishing themselves in Jerusalem about 2415 years ago. Several gates are mentioned as being under repair and as meeting places. At that time I think they were too involved with their own problems to be concerned with American political cheating 2415 years in their future.

In Nehemiah there is the sheep gate (3:1, 32, 12:39), the fish gate (3:3), the valley gate (3:13), the dung gate (3:13, 14, 12:31), the fountain gate (3:15, 12:37), the *water* gate (3:26, 8:1, 3, 16), and the horse gate (3:28).

The main *water* gate verse reads, "8:1 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded to Israel."

Now, according to Bible Bandit Jeane, we are to believe that this was not an account of a meeting which happened 2415 years ago at the water gate in Jerusalem, but the Democratic Party's convention to nominate their presidential candidate in 1972. The man the Bible writer meant was not Ezra, the Jewish scribe, but George McGovern, the American senator. Nor did they mean "the book of the law of Moses which the Lord had commanded unto Israel", but the U.S. Constitution of James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, etc. which our founding fathers had commanded unto America.

Read the rest of the eighth chapter of Nehemiah for yourself. If you still believe it is a prophecy of our times instead of a meeting which took place in Jerusalem about 444 B. C., then good for you. If you run next door, I'm sure your neighbor will give you a cookie.

One of Jeane Dixon's proudest boasts is her palm prints, especially her left one. She goes into ecstasies over this configuration of lines, stars, mounts, etc. and puts it forth as proof that she indeed has the gift of prophecy.

I have made only a slight study of palmistry. I have compared my head, heart, life lines, etc. with examples in books. I have not been impressed. With so many better ways of determining a person's characteristics and potentials I find the palm print to be the least rewarding and believe it to be a waste of time.

I have visited palmists at times and found their examination of my palms to be irrelevant, especially if they studied only my hands. In comparing notes with others I have found that most palmists use the same general method.

They first make a great show of pointing out the lines, stars, mounts, etc., as if educating you in the art. In this form of light hypnotism they relax you and get you to fix your gaze on your palm.

As they go through their palmistry lecture, which they know by heart, they are constantly examining your face. While they talk in generalities of past family problems they will mention parents, children, wives, husbands, etc. When they see you become alert at one of these mentions they become more specific. This applies to occupations, interests and experiences which we all share but which affect us differently.

So by our reactions, the generalities are narrowed down to specifics. A good palmist is usually a good psychologist or maybe even a telepath.

If you are a woman who knows of a palmist go to her as you are and let her do her stuff. Remember well what she told you. Better, take notes afterward or carry a tape recorder in your purse.

Go again a month later wearing a heavy veil as if you were

in mourning. If she can't examine your face and if you don't give her much assurance by telling her when she is right you will really show her up as a phoney. Of course, if she is legitimate, all she needs to tell your fortune is to see your palms. Your refusal to help her otherwise will not bother her at all if she is for real.

I would say this estimate of mine concerning palmists is about 90% accurate. The reason for this is that serious, talented occultists seldom use palmistry as their advertised way of making money.

Palmistry may be a revealing science among occultists who study the palm only and not the face. This would also demand an extensive comparison of thousands of palm prints of persons to see if murderer's palms were the same and if the palms of creative geniuses were the same and so on.

I don't think Jeane's "discoverer," Madam Pierce, was such a scientific palmist.

Yet Jeane uses her palm as one proof that she is divinely gifted as a psychic. On her Helen Bentley interview a woman asked her, "Jeane, I have a question about your palm. I'm very curious about your palm; about the mystic cross."

Helen Bentley then said, "Let's see it, can we?"

Jeane answered, "Everybody asks about the palm of my hand. Here it is. Here is the moon and a tremendous star. You see; here is the moon and a tremendous star. And if you notice, my hands, on the inside, look like very, very old hands. That means the spirit in my body and soul is very, very ancient. (Her prophetic palm is best described in Ruth Montgomery's book, "A Gift of Prophecy" on page 15).

"And this is it; it is a moon here with a tremendous star. And when people come from the far eastern orient it's the first thing they ask. They will not even shake hands with me.

"And there's even been some people who come from India, Pakistan, and that, who *when they see the palm of my*

band, they will lay prostrate on the ground, saying, 'God has given you the gift of prophecy.' " (Italics mine)

I have never seen Jeane's palm. Such a great palm should be shared by others. She should at least give scientific palmists a chance to compare it with the palms of us lesser mortals.

I challenge her to publish her palm print along with her birth statistics. In fact, this should be a requisite for all psychics who claim exceptional abilities as shown by their palm or birth dates. (Incidentally, I was born at 11:25 a.m. on March 6, 1932 in Wichita, Kansas at home)

Lastly, we come to the two private audiences Jeane claims to have had with President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. She says the first took place on a Thursday at 11 a.m. sometime in November of 1944. The next claimed visit was again on a Thursday at 11 a.m. in mid-January of 1945.

Jeane's first account of her visits is on pages 25-27 and 36-38 of Jess Stern's "The Door to the Future." The second is on pages 43 through 48 of Ruth Montgomery's "A Gift of Prophecy."

In Jess Stern's book she tells of only one appointment.

Here she begins the account by making it very secretive. She blames a story by a columnist on the cab driver who took her to the White House. But do Washington cab drivers know which of their thousands of White House fares have appointments with the President?

And why the secrecy on her part or the President's? And if there was felt a need for secrecy due to possible official embarrassment the meetings would not have been scheduled during the normal hours of presidential business.

To Stern she went on, seemingly ill at ease and wanting to change the subject. He pressed her, however, and she con-



Whattaya want Dearie, TWA?

tinued, telling him that she saw no one else in the White House but Roosevelt, not even a guard. There was only one lone guard outside the White House.

Here she tells of a call from a woman, also a confirmation call and that the outside guard knew of her appointment. On page 38 the lone White House guard has come from outside the building and is now just outside the President's door.

In this incident, Jeane Dixon paints a picture of a Thursday morning at 11 a.m. during the height of the greatest war in human history. The dwelling and person of the most important man on earth at that time is virtually unguarded and no business is being conducted. One lone guard outside the building. No guard or anyone else inside between the entrance, the corridor and anteroom outside the President's oval office!

In Ruth Montgomery's "A Gift of Prophecy," Jeane tells of *two* appointments to talk to Roosevelt, both again, at 11 a.m.

She seems to have considered the absurdity of her account to Jess Stern in his book published in 1963. She made it more believable in her account to Montgomery in 1965. However, I question her good sense in changing her story at all since both stories were to be public record and making them differ could not help but make one, or both, a lie.

But I digress. In the Montgomery story on page 43 she tells of the phone call from a woman making the appointment and then of its later confirmation by a man. On her arrival at the White House she gave her name to a guard who expected her and waved her inside the grounds. She walked to the White House and entered a lobby where she was met by William D. Simmons to whom she gave her name. Simmons then led her past a guard who greeted her by name.

After this appointment yet another appointment is described on page 46. In this appointment she places a group

of men sitting in the lobby.

The impression given by the first story is one of loneliness. Here is sweet mother Jeane comforting this poor, lonely man with all the troubles of the world on his shoulders.

Had the setting been real she would have had to step over the body of the lone guard and wait in line behind hordes of Nazi and Japanese assassins. War time, you know.

Her tale to Montgomery gives Roosevelt both an inside guard and an outside guard. And with Mr. Simmons present, there is no appearance of a security gap. But the differences in the stories of the appointments caused me to doubt that the appointments took place at all.

I sent a letter to the White House Appointments Secretary. I included Xerox copies of all the book pages referring to the appointments. My letter was forwarded to James B. Rhoads, Archivist of the United States. He, in turn, forwarded it to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library where it was answered by William J. Stewart, Acting Director.

Now, according to both versions combined of Jeane Dixon's first appointment with Roosevelt, at least five persons knew of her appointment. There was the secretary who made the appointment, the man who called to verify it, an inside guard, an outside guard and Mr. Simmons.

Yet, according to Mr. Stewart, "Her name does not appear in the White House appointment diaries for the periods indicated, and we are unable to find elsewhere in the papers here any evidence that she met with the President."

There would have been no need to omit her appointments from the records because of secrecy. And if secrecy was wanted due to possible official embarrassment, the appointments would have been scheduled for the evenings during the President's free time. Such evening appointments *might* have stayed off the records.

Since the appointments were made three days ahead there

was no urgency. Nor were they just casual meetings. So since the appointments were neither urgent nor casual, and since at least five government employees knew of the appointments, there is no reason to believe they could have been left out of the appointment diaries.

Following are four letters. The first is the carbon of mine to the White House. The second is from James B. Rhoads, the National Archivist. The third is from William J. Stewart, Acting Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. The fourth is from John W. Warner, Jr., Assistant to the Director, United States Secret Service. Never let it be said that our government is too big to be helpful and cooperative.

Atlas Formularies

P. O. Box 438

Eureka, California 95501

July 23, 1973

White House
Appointments Secretary

Dear Secretary:

I am working on a book entitled, "Our Modern Prophets; How Accurate Are They?".

Jeane Dixon claims widely to have had two private audiences with President Roosevelt in 1945. Only her version of the interviews are given, naturally.

I can't believe her versions. Also, her description of White House security in those critical times is silly.

I researched all the back articles available on her and find no verification of such a visit. An unnamed Time writer wrote for August 13, 65 that, "no historians seem to have recorded the event."

I feel that if one citizen can make so much indirect capital out of claiming two visits to a president, then the rest of us citizens have a right to know if those visits actually took place. It would also be interesting to know if White House security was so lax during war time.

As stated in the excerpts of "A Gift Of Prophecy" by Ruth Montgomery, the first appointment was on a Thursday at 11:00 A.M. in November of 1944. The second was in mid-January and again at 11:00 A.M. in 1945.

The first excerpt, from "Door To The Future", by Jean Stearn, 1963, tells of one lone guard outside and no one inside. In Montgomery's book, 1965, she's made the security believable, although the accounts are now in total conflict. Wouldn't you just love to see Dixon on that Watergate thing?

I would very much appreciate it if your office would either verify or deny those two appointments, and her account of White House security. It would also be fantastic to learn, if the appointments took place, they were bugged.

Thank you for your time and I do hope you reply.

Cordially yours,

Kurt Saxon

Kurt Saxon

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
National Archives and Records Service
Washington, DC 20408



August 8, 1973

Mr. Kurt Saxon
Atlas Formulas
P.O. Box 438
Eureka, California 95501

Dear Mr. Saxon:

Your letter of July 23 has been referred by the White House Appointments Secretary to me for reply. If there is any information available to respond to your questions, it is most likely in the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, New York 12518. We have asked the director of the Roosevelt Library, Mr. Josef C. James, to have the staff make a search for evidence relating to your interests. You will hear directly from him before long.

Sincerely,

JAMES E. RHOADS
Archivist of the United States

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
Hyde Park, NY 12508



August 16, 1973

Mr. Kurt Saxon
Attn: Formularies
P.O. Box 48
Eureka, California 95501

Dear Mr. Saxon:

This is in reply to your letter of July 23 to the White House and referred to us through the Archivist of the United States.

We are unable to affirm or deny that Jeane Dixon visited Franklin Roosevelt as stated in the book 1001 of Prophecy. Her name does not appear in the White House appointment diaries for the periods indicated, and we are unable to find elsewhere in the papers here any evidence that she met with the President. However, Mr. Roosevelt was in Washington at the times mentioned so we cannot say that it was impossible for them to have met then.

I am sorry that we do not have detailed information as to how many guards were posted at particular posts at the White House.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Stewart

WILLIAM J. STEWART
Acting Director



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20221

September 11, 1973

Mr. Kurt Saxon
P. O. Box 438
Ureka, California 95561

Dear Mr. Saxon:

Your recent letter to the White House Appointments Secretary requesting information about certain meetings with President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1945 has been referred to the Secret Service for reply.

We are unable to provide you with the information you requested. Secret Service policy prohibits our commenting on the President's (or former Presidents') appointments or itinerary.

You may wish to write to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library, Hyde Park, New York 12538, for any information they may be able to provide on this subject.

Sincerely,

John W. Warner, Jr.
Assistant to the Director

MOTHER SHIPTON

People believe what they want to. "My mind is made up; don't confuse me with facts." But if your only comfort is in a provable lie you are poor indeed.

As I have shown early in this book, people believe in a psychic this year even though her last year's predictions were wrong. Occultists in various fields claim they are backed up by the Bible. Their claims are false and could easily be checked but their devotees don't want honesty in their fantasies.

The oddest of the true believers, however, are the Mother Shiptonites. I can't recall how many sensational articles I have seen which glorify Mother Shipton's prophecies, especially the goody about the world coming to an end in 1991.

Anyone with more than just a casual interest in Mother Shipton can find several references to the hoax in the nearest library. Even Jess Stern, on pages 141-146 of "The Door to the Future," gives an excellent exposure to the Shipton nonsense.

Yet the *National Enquirer* for Jan. 4, 1970 gives the lie nearly a full page. "The World Will End In 1991," says the headline of a story by Martin Glass, quoting Eric Maple.

Martin Glass cannot be excused for his failure to research Mother Shipton. Eric Maple is touted as being Britain's foremost authority on folklore and superstition. If Eric was not simply trying to make Martin Glass look like a fool then Eric is a liar and a fraud.

Following is the reprint of the *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* for December 1881. If you read it well you will see that people then were just as gullible and the psychic swindlers had easy pickings.

HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

NO. CCCLXXIX. DECEMBER, 1881. VOL. LXIV.

There has recently come under my own personal observation evidence of the extreme anxiety of the common people to verify any alleged extraordinary phenomenon. Fifteen years ago one Charles Hindley, while editing certain old and worthless pamphlets that were hawked about London two hundred years ago, much as Zalkiel's Almanac is now, conceived the sorry notion of publishing the "Prophecies of Mother Shipton"—certain prophecies of his own forging. These fictitious utterances were embodied in that kind of runic doggerel which prevails in the Roxborough Ballads, and they represent the old female "astrologer" Mother Shipton (who was born about the year 1488) as predicting:

"Carriages without horses shall go,
Around the world thoughts shall fly
In the twinkling of an eye,
Iron in the water shall float
As easy as a wooden boat,
Gold shall be found, and found
In a land that's not now known,
Fire and water shall more wonders do,
England shall at last admit a Jew,

"A house of glass shall come to pass
In England—but, alas!
War will follow with the work,
In the land of the pagan and Turk;
And state and state in fierce strife
Will seek each other's life,
But when the North shall divide the South,
An eagle shall build in the lion's mouth.

"The world then to an end shall come
In eighteen hundred and eighty-one."

The allusions in this doggerel to steam, the telegraph, iron ships, California, Disraeli, the American war (going on while Hindley was writing), and even the Crystal Palace, at once attracted the attention of antiquarians. A correspondence occurred in *Notes and Queries* (Series IV., vol. ii.), and in the end Hindley's confession of the forgery was made and published. But the Chinese proverb was veri-

fied that the royal chariot and postillions can not overtake the word once escaped. These fictitious utterances obtained a wide circulation and belief among the class which is not accustomed to read *Notes and Queries*, and unfortunately among these appears to be some person authorized to write in a respectable London journal. In the *Globe* newspaper of February 17, 1877, portions of the forged predictions were printed as being very wonderful, and, still more wonderful, they were said to have been "published" in 1448, *i. e.*, before the introduction of printing! The allusion to the war in Turkey—the only hit really—attracted attention, and the immediate result was that the "prophecies" were printed on a card, price two-pence, now sold in vast numbers throughout the length and breadth of the land. On the windows of hundreds of newspaper and candy shops in London one reads, "Read Mother Shipton's Wonderful Prophecies!" Having invested his twopenny, one possesses a coarse piece of pasteboard, five inches by three, on which are the lines already quoted, and more of a similar kind, under the following heading: "Mother Shipton's Prophecies! Have recently been discovered in the British Museum, written in an old manuscript work, A. 16. 1448, and portions have been published in the *Globe* newspaper of February 17, 1877. This wonderful woman lived till she was of extraordinary age. She died at Clifton in Yorkshire, from which is taken the following epitaph, copied from a stone monument:

"Here lyes she who never ly'd,
Whose skill often has been try'd.
Her Prophecies shall survive,
And ever keep her name alive."

But besides this cheap edition of the spurious additions to originally spurious "prophecies," there is on the market a sensationally decorated sixpenny book, which, I am told, is being circulated widely in all the colonies, and possibly it is known in America. On the cover Mother

HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

Shipton is represented careering amid comets and stars on her broomstick, her familiars accompanying her in shape of a cat crouching behind her, and an owl perched before her on the broom handle. The steam train and the balloon, which she is declared to have predicted, are included. Inside is related the old story of Mother Shipton's birth from the unhallowed marriage of her mother with the devil; the prodigies which attended her infancy, such as her cradle being found suspended up the chimney with the child in it without visible means of support, and her reading a book at first sight; and then the prophecies after the fact forged in the seventeenth century, followed by those forged in this nineteenth century. The fact is notable that on the placards and on the book-cover the thing made most prominent is the prediction that the world is to come to an end in 1881. This is the most fascinating item. It is notorious that English mines have within these recent years remained vacant for twenty-four hours where Zadkiel's Almanac had predicted an explosion on that day; and it is not at all unlikely that after the growing interest in the events of 1881, if that year shall be safely passed without an explosion of the planet, Mother Shipton will be blown as sky-high as in the picture, and a world of delusions will come to an end.

I fear it will be impossible otherwise to deliver the English masses from this unhappy piece of miseducation. And yet there has been revealed amid it all the popular hunger for truth. I am assured by friends of mine employed in the British Museum that for months that institution has been fairly besieged by people anxious to know if there be any such manuscript as that referred to, or if the predictions are genuine. And even after the uniform denial had been given for seven or eight months after the *Globe* article appeared, there were sometimes as many as fifty applications in a single day, most of them from working-people who could little afford the time.

The forger of these "prophecies" may have been unconscious of the full character of his crime; but a little reflection will show that the class of minds which have been misled at a vital point is precisely that which most requires exact guidance in distinguishing the rational prevision



THE REAL MOTHER SHIPTON.

from that which would be marvellous, and both of these from that which would be monstrous. They whose belief (or even quasi-belief) is built up by a certain process of honest reasoning, on however mistaken premises, do not yield a position merely to authority, and that is all the busy men at the Museum can spare time to give the multitudinous inquirers. What is mere unsupported denial against the vast number of facts built into the pyramid whose apex Hindley selects to pedestal his lie? Toward the close of the fifteenth century—certainly more than a generation after the date given above, 1448—lived the woman who became known as Mother Shipton, whose repute as a prophetess, however, rests upon nothing earlier than 1641. At that time a pamphlet appeared with this title: "The Prophetess of Mother Shipton. In the raigne of King Henry the Eighth. Foretelling the death of Cardinall Wolsey, the Lord Percy, and others, as also what should happen in insuing times. London. Printed for Richard Lowndes at his shop adjoyning the Ludgate, 1641." On the title-page is a nearly full-length and very coarse woodcut, not of the conventional "witch," but of the mediæval country-woman. The

book was evidently forged, probably by the "astrologer" of the time, Lily, and it is to be feared that the evidences of the success of the forgery two hundred years ago set an all too tempting example before the artful editor of 1862. As a specimen of the "Prophesie," I have transcribed from the ancient book itself the concluding sentences: "Then shall be in the North that one woman shall say unto another, Mother, I have seen a man to-day, and for one man there shall be a thousand women; there shall be a man sitting upon St. James's Church Hill weeping his fill; and after that a ship come sayling up the Thames till it come against London, and the Master of the ship shall weep, and the Marriners shall aske him why hee weepeth, seeing he hath made so good a voyage, and hee shall say, Ah, what a goodly Citie this was! none in the world comparable to it, and now there is scarce left any house that can let us have drinke for our money." This was Lily's great and only hit—if, as is probable, he wrote the book—for the great fire of London occurred twenty-five years later, and the astrologers had no difficulty in putting that and this together. The last lines in the book are these:

"Unhappy hee that lives to see these days;
But happy are the dead, Shipton's wife says."

It is very likely that in this couplet we have some "old wives' rune," which had lasted like a nursery rhyme, or like "Poor Richard's" saws of a later day, and that this suggested the idea of fabricating a number of prophecies so vague that one or two at least might be fitted on to some events likely to come, and ascribing them to the old Dame Shipton.

END